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MILITARY INSTRUCTION.

The "Military Gazette" publishes an article on Military Instruction by Capt. Eben Swift, U. S. A. It is the form of an address before officers of the Illinois National Guard. Capt. Swift says of Military Instruction: "It is a partially unworked field in this country, capable of greater development as well in the National Guard as in the regular service. The difficulty has been to enlist the interest and to direct the instruction into useful channels. Nothing is more monotonous than a military duty performed in a spiritless and perfunctory way, but if you vary the exercise, show men the results of their work, point out how they improve, you will fill them with interest and enthusiasm for every task. I blame no man for getting tired of an endless round of drill and guard duty any more than I blame a man for getting tired of studying the primer every day of his life."

"To bridge this chasm between practice and theory, then, was long supposed to be impossible. It is probably the greatest difficulty that we encounter in the military profession. The secret lies in what is called the 'applicatory' system of instruction. The word exactly defines the method, for it consists in teaching principles by their application. It is a development of recent years. In this way the Germans have proved by a complete system of peace training that men may be prepared, of every grade, from generals to privates, who will have all the soldierly qualities of veterans of many battles."

"Every thought in peace is directed to the day when the troops will be employed in actual war. Every useless movement is eliminated, and whenever it is possible they take the troops into the open country where every man is put through such a course of training as you would imagine an old hunter would give to a youngster who is just taking his first lesson in stalking big game."

"In this kind of training it is not supposed that we require the exciting incidents of war to make it useful for our purposes. Our situations can be made so real and business-like that they lack but one element to give them the appearance of actual war. That one point missing is the element of danger. I believe that entirely too much importance is attached to it. All schemes of military instruction must be first directed to the officers. They must prove their title to leadership by extra work. They must show that it was right to trust them with the great responsibilities that they may at any moment be called on to assume. If the officer has no experience, no judgment sharpened by practice, if he is a mere theorist or not even a theorist, he will be in an infinitely worse condition than in any other profession. An inexperienced doctor makes a mistake and buries a patient. A druggist pours out of the wrong bottle and there is a coroner's inquest. A lawyer makes a wrong plea and a client hangs. But one mistake of a soldier may fill a thousand graves besides his own, it may ruin a cause and it may disgrace a State."

The whole address is admirable and we regret that its length prevents republication in full.

TIME AT MILITARY POSTS.

It goes without saying that a soldier should be punctual in attending formations. It is at best but a lame excuse to say, "I did not hear the call," or "My watch was wrong." Yet only too often, as many can testify, such defaults occur. In these days of large posts, especially, it is not an easy matter to keep track of duty calls. Very often in winter the calls are not heard by the officers in their quarters from one week's end to another. One must rely upon a watch or clock. But both watches and clocks are fallible and the trouble is to keep them running with the time piece by which the calls are sounded. Of course one is at liberty to visit the standard timepiece—usually the Adjutant's clock—once or twice a day, but to make a journey of half a mile or mile for the especial purpose of setting a watch is rather inconvenient. Here again is a difficulty. The standard timepiece has its own error—corrected from time to time—and having obtained the time in the forenoon, one may differ in the afternoon, for the standard timepiece has been set ahead or behind from one to two minutes or more. In Washington City it is customary to set their timepieces by the time ball, which falls daily at high noon at the old Naval Observatory, and the same custom prevails elsewhere. Why could not some such arrangement be adopted to settle what is now a vexatious problem at many of our military posts? In the cities time balls are no longer needed, for the correct time can be had at any jeweler's from the standardized clock, but in military posts one is at the mercy of his clock or watch if he would not stand around on the parade in the mud and rain waiting for the assembly. Let the steam whistle of the pumping engine sound at noon, or any other hour, daily, a flag drop or something of the sort take place that those interested may be on the lookout and set their timepieces accordingly. Thus would many a man be saved the mortification of a "late" or an "absence." The matter of the above suggestion is so simple, and the resulting benefit so great that we give it in the hope that some of those who control Army destinies may see their way clear to adopt it. If there is to be no more certainty on the part of Chief Trumpeter Gabriel when he blows the great last assembly than there is with the service calls at our military posts, we are afraid that many of the dwellers at military posts will be too late for the ceremony.

A very successful test of the Johnson shell cap was made by the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department at the Indian Head Proving Grounds on Tuesday, January 5. A number of tests of this cap had been made previously, and each time with successful results. On

Tuesday 6-inch Carpenter armor piercing shells were fired against a Harveyized plate, with a velocity of 1,000 feet per second. One of the shells was fitted with the Johnson cap; some of the others were equipped with caps of different designs, and some were without caps. The shell with the Johnson cap pierced the plate. None of the others met with such good results, but broke up without going through the plate. The test is regarded by the Bureau of Ordnance as another recommendation of the superior methods of the Johnson cap.

Advices from Albany state that a new military code is being prepared by a member of the Legislature. The main object to be attained is to provide for a Major General, to be appointed by the Governor and to hold office for a term of six years, who will in effect be the Commander-in-Chief of the Guard. At present the responsibility of the Commander-in-Chief is divided between the Governor and the Adjutant General. The Major General shall have his own staff to perform the work in the National Guard now performed by the Governor's staff. He will have officers to perform the work now in charge of the Inspector General, Inspector of Rifle Practice, and the Commissary General. The Governor will have a staff consisting of the Adjutant General, Chief of Ordnance, private and military secretaries, and six or eight aides. The members of the Governor's staff would have no direction of the affairs of the National Guard, with the exception of the Adjutant General and the Chief of Ordnance. The latter would retain the authority now conferred on the Chief of Ordnance on the Governor's staff. The Adjutant General would retain the authority to issue commissions, and no moneys could be expended for the National Guard except under his direction and approval.

The Assistant Controller of the Treasury has allowed the claim of Maj. F. A. Mahan for mileage while traveling on a Government launch from Pensacola to Fort Pickens, Fla., as a part of a through journey from Montgomery, Ala., to Fort Pickens, under orders in performance of his duty as engineer officer in charge of construction at the fort. Under the present law bearing upon such cases, there is a division of traveling allowances into actual cost of transportation and subsistence in the form of mileage for the journey performed. Mileage of four cents per mile allowed under the Act of Aug. 6, 1894, is intended as a commutation of all expenses except actual transportation, when such expenses have to be incurred, there being no means of procuring subsistence en route. Maj. Mahan's claim that there was no place on the boat from Pensacola to Fort Pickens where one might live or obtain subsistence being substantiated, the claim was allowed. The Assistant Controller, however, declared that such claims would not ordinarily be allowed for passage between Fort Pickens and Pensacola, except as such travel constituted a part of a longer through journey.

The New Orleans "Picayune" some time ago stated that the last shot of the civil war was fired from an 8-inch Columbiad, "Lady Slocumb," recently sold at Mobile, Ala. The occasion was the raid by the Union cavalry under Maj. Gen. J. H. Wilson, which led to the surrender of Spanish Fort, garrisoned by the 5th Battalion, Washington Artillery, commanded by Capt. Slocumb, in honor of whose wife the gun was named. Joseph A. Stuart, of Auburn, Cal., takes exception to the statement of the "Picayune" in a letter, saying: "The fort was captured at 3 a. m., Sunday, April 19, 1865, by Gen. Canby (the same day Lee surrendered). On Wednesday, April 12, 1865, the Metacomb's forward 100-pounder rifle sent a shell into the garden of a man named Ferguson, where a sand battery had been, on the western shore, but was not, as it was already on the way to Mobile. The troops of Gen. Canby then landed and found Mobile evacuated. We Metacombs have always claimed that our forward pivot gun, Granger's 6-inch Parrott, fired the last shell of the war, by the Navy at least. We are certain it fired the last one at Mobile, and had ever done most efficient service. It deserved to be labeled and honored as such rather than the resurrected 'Lady Slocumb.'"

We are unable to award the palm of absolute accuracy to either of these gentlemen. There were at least a dozen engagements after April 12, 1865, the last being the fight of May 13, 1865, between the 62d U. S. Colored Troops, the 34th Indiana Volunteers and the 2d Texas Cavalry, at Palmetto Rand, Texas. The surrender of Kirby Smith followed on the 26th of May, 1865, and closed the war. The "Buffalo soldiers" seem to have been in at the death.

The claim of Gen. D. G. Swaim, retired, formerly Judge Advocate General, U. S. A., for the amount of his pay withheld under the execution of the finding of a general court martial, will come before the Supreme Court of the United States in a few days for argument, he having appealed from the decree of the Court of Claims, which rejected his suit. It will be remembered that Gen. Swaim was tried by court martial on charges preferred by Maj. R. N. Scott, acting under orders from the Secretary of War, and found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman and sentenced to be suspended from rank and duty for twelve years and to forfeit half his pay for each month during that period. He sued to recover the sums withheld on the ground that the court martial which tried him was illegally constituted; that the charges against him were not properly preferred, and that the facts proved constitute no offense. Gen. Swaim has filed a lengthy brief in support of his appeal, but the Government law officers have

not yet advised the Court of their intentions in the matter.

The "Army and Navy Gazette" tells us that a very important volume, dealing with the broad conditions of naval and military strategy, has been published during the week by Messrs. Blackwood. This is "The Effect of Maritime Command on Land Campaigns since Waterloo," by Maj. C. E. Callwell, Royal Artillery, author of "Small Wars." The work belongs to the school of Capt. Mahan, and may be regarded as a complement to his last work. It surveys the general course of the wars ending with Navarino, the Russo-Turkish War of 1828-1829, many operations of the succeeding period, the war in the East in 1854, the events that followed, including the war of 1870, the American Civil War, the Turkish War of 1877-78, and many later operations. The broad deduction is that sea power may, and generally does, exercise a far-reaching influence over land campaigns, that in every age there have been conflicts manifestly governed by maritime conditions in adjacent waters, and that history affords numerous instances, ancient and modern, in which the overthrow of a great naval armament has involved the destruction of an imposing military force. Maj. Callwell illustrates how the unchanging conditions of sea power have operated in the wars of the century, and, if the matter has eluded some inquirers, it is, he says, because the naval influence is in the main strategical, and because the final decision of a war on land is made in most cases with the clang of arms, while the train of events which leads up to the tactical success and makes it possible is overlooked in rejoicings at the visible manifestation of the victory. The subject is treated with masterly lucidity, and we shall presently deal with the book at length.

The last issue of the Journal quoted a brief article concerning a new enterprise, the Lincoln Memorial University, to be established at Cumberland Gap. Concerning this, Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard, U. S. A., says, in a letter to the editor of the "Journal": "As I have no funds of my own to put in, it would not be right for me to have the credit of purchasing a large property there. The enterprise was set on foot by some gentlemen who thought that a university for the mountain whites of that region, with agricultural and industrial features, would be better than a mere monument of stone near where Mr. Lincoln was born. There is a school on the spot called 'The Harrow Institute,' which will be a nucleus or stepping stone to the Memorial University. The friends are seeking for a patron or patrons of their benevolent design. I assented simply to be a trustee and a friend."

The officers of the Engineer Corps are doing remarkably fine work on the new fortifications and displaying great energy in preparing the new emplacements and mounting the disappearing gun carriages and guns as fast as received. The Ordnance Department is filling the requisitions of the engineer officers for guns and gun carriages as fast as possible, but is experiencing unavoidable delay in receiving these huge forgings from the various iron works. Few outside of those personally acquainted with the work have any adequate conception of the size of these gun carriages, some of which require five cars for their shipments.

The "Yamstocks," as the inhabitants of the island of St. Helena are called, are experiencing the sharp reverses of fortune. Steam and the Suez Canal have together deprived the island of the importance it had when Napoleon I. made it known to the world over. In 1870 after the Suez Canal was opened, the revenue began to decrease, falling from \$100,000 to \$65,000, with corresponding reduction in expenditures. This meant financial distress and poverty with a falling off in population. Including the British garrison and the shipping in the port the total is now only 2,800.

Lieut. Moreau, of the French Navy, has arrived at Sofia, commissioned by the Minister of Marine to instruct the officers of the Bulgarian flotilla. M. Croneau, a professor at the French School of Naval Engineering, has been placed at the disposition of the Portuguese Government, and has been charged with the reorganization of the arsenal at Lisbon. China, too, has demanded the service of French organizers. Two naval engineers, a draughtsman, and several others are about to proceed to Foochow to undertake a reconstitution of the dockyard there.

Prince Bismarck's organ in Germany describes "the friendship of France and Russia as ideal and platonic, and calculated, rather to prevent than to hasten the war of the revanche." The impression in the best informed circles is that there is no formal alliance between France and Russia, but only a friendly understanding, such as existed between Russia and the United States during our civil war, founded upon common hostility to the aggressive methods of other nations.

The following is an estimate published in England of battleships launched or laid down between 1886-96 and to be completed before 1910:

Country.	No. of Ships.	Tons.	Total calibre in inches.	
			Of heavy Guns.	Secondary Armament.*
England	29	391,390	1,418	1,794
France	17	172,410	709	1,044
Russia	16	160,110	702	714
France and Russia. 33		332,520	1,591	1,758

* Guns throwing a shot of 30-lb. weight and upwards.

ATHLETICS AT THE NAVAL ACADEMY.

The athletes of the Naval Academy have just ended a season of sport, during which the football team has done finely and heaped new laurels upon that institution, but the cadets are now wondering whether the adverse stand taken by Supt. Cooper toward athletics on the land, and, particularly, contests with other institutions, will not prevent them from again seeing such matches as have, in times past, made them tingle with enthusiasm and very generally glow with triumph.

It is thought that the cadets have had this season the best football team in their history. Their first contest was with the University of Pennsylvania team during the first days of October. This game took place only four days after the cadets had reassembled after the summer holidays, and the whole work of selecting the team and practicing each player in the duties of his position had to be done in that period, yet the cadets put a team in the field which held the University of Pennsylvania down to eight points. Following these games the manager had arranged contests with several of the leading northern athletic clubs. However, the Superintendent exercised his veto power, and canceled these games. This action has been strongly commended, owing to the questionable amateur status of most of these clubs.

The cadets then defeated in order: Rutgers, 42 to 6; Franklin and Marshall, 56 to 0, and St. John's, 48 to 0. Then came the game with the Pennsylvania scrubs, in which the cadets displayed the poorest form of the year, and were defeated by them, by a score of 6 to 0, though the best points of the game were on the side of the cadets, and Pennsylvania won by one fortunate skirt around the left end. They had sufficiently regained their form, however, by the next week, when they tackled Lehigh University. This was regarded as second in importance only to their Thanksgiving day game, owing to the fact that these teams have played a number of close games, each winning a fair share. This season the cadets took them into camp at a score of 26 to 10. Then came the game of Thanksgiving Day with Lafayette, the conquerors of Pennsylvania. In the first half, the cadets played desperately, and actually had the score 6 to 0 in their favor, but, in the second, the superior weight, strength, and, to be fair, football ability, of their opponents told, and 18 points were rolled up against the Academy.

The showing of the cadet team can be better appreciated when it is understood that seven of last year's team had to be replaced in this season's. Powell has made an energetic captain, and has inspired his men by his own ability. Richardson, right half, is the find of the year, developing into one of the greatest line breakers and ground gainers ever turned out of the Academy. Halligan, right guard; Landis, left tackle, and Shea, a plebe, right end, may be mentioned among the stars. Tardy, the center, weighs only 155 pounds, but is a remarkable player for his weight, and is full of vim and grit. The whole team has played the fast, plucky ball which has always characterized a Naval Academy team.

The most prominent fact in connection with the present of athletics at the Academy is that, barring possibly a few first-class games, there will be no exhibition of the national game at the Academy the coming season, and possibly for many others. This state of affairs is due to the position of Supt. Cooper in regard to contests on land. His avowed position on this matter is to curtail them as far as possible, and to substitute sports which will tend to increase the knowledge of the cadets along lines which will prove directly useful to them in their profession of naval officers. To this end quite a fleet of sailing craft has now been attached to the Academy, and the cadets are allowed, and even urged, to make use of them during their hours of recreation, under the regulations laid down by the Commandant of Cadets. The most recent addition to this flotilla consists of four catboats, which have been placed at the disposal of the cadets by a recent order. Besides these there is the yacht Robert Center, named after the donor, and a whole fleet of cutters and sailing crafts of other kinds.

In line with the idea of the Superintendent, crew racing meets with the full approbation of the Academy authorities, and the management of that department of athletics is preparing to make a season in that sport never before witnessed at the Academy. Last season the crew was markedly successful, winning shell races with the eight of the Potomac Athletic Club and the Columbia Athletic Club, and the cutter race with the New York Naval Reserve. They were defeated only by the Baltimore Athletic Club, the champion amateur eight of the country. This season Manager Cyrus R. Miller, of California, will bring some fine college crews to Annapolis. A match has been definitely fixed with Cornell, although the date has not yet been arranged, and it is probable that a crew will be rowed which is even better known in the college world. Just at present there are about twenty-five candidates at work in the tank, who will be put on the river as soon as the weather permits and the question of a coach is settled. Manager Miller has the offer of the services of two of the members of the Yale-Henley crew of last season, and is considering which one to accept. His services will be required as soon as the spring practice begins, and that is early in the latitude of the Naval Academy. Seven of last year's eight are at the Academy, one only, Cadet Palmer, having left. Cadet A. H. McCarthy, of Iowa, has been elected captain. He stroked the crew last season, and plays left end on the football team. The candidates for the crew are: Cadets Overstreet, Graeme, Pinney, Halligan, Taussig, Fischer, Collins, Buchanan, Greenslade, Morrison, Powell, Asserson, Smith, Royall, Hunt, Lackey, Kalbfus, Courtney, Timmons, Russell, Wortman, Boardman, and Wade, Powell, Asserson, Halligan, Smith and Fischer are also members of this season's football team.

Another branch of athletics, which meets with the approbation of the authorities of the Naval Academy, is field and track athletics. An interesting feature of these contests is the swimming race of fifty yards, which is held off the sea-wall, contiguous to the athletic field. Naval Cadet W. B. Izard, of South Carolina, holds the world's record at this distance, having made it in thirty-one and two-fifths seconds. Cadet Henderson, of Iowa, also equalled the seconds at the race of '93. Cadet Henderson also equalled the intercollegiate record of ten seconds for a hundred yards, having made that distance in thirty seconds and two-fifths, almost two seconds better than the former Academy record.

This cadet is also a famous punter. On Dec. 19, 1896, in the football kicking contests for medals from the Naval Academy Auxiliary Association, Henderson kicked the oval, 150 yards 3 inches.

This will be the fourth year that a spring meet has been held under the auspices of the Naval Academy Aux-

iliary Athletic Association, which is composed of naval officers stationed all over the world, and of the alumni of the Naval Academy now in civil life. Since these contests were inaugurated, the records for the Naval Academy have gone steadily upward and the athletes are now practicing with the idea of besting a number this time. This department has been found invaluable for preparation for other contests, and in keeping players in condition during the year. A possible new feature will be a relay race between a four of the Naval Academy and one of St. John's College, of Annapolis. This latter institution had a strong four in the relay races of the University of Pennsylvania last season, and a number of the cadets are anxious to get up a contest. The race would be for one mile, the four runners running each a quarter.

While every form of athletics has its special votaries at the Naval Academy, there is one thing superior, blandishments and encouragements to other forms by the authorities notwithstanding, and is pre-eminent in the hearts of cadets, and that is football. The supreme contest is with West Point, and though interdicted for several years, the naval cadets have hopes that, with a new administration at Washington, these interesting series of annual games, between two national institutions of the Army and Navy, may be revived.

THE MEDICAL OFFICER IN ACTION.

A graphic account of the experiences of the medical officer of an infantry battalion in action, is given in the synopsis published by the "United Service Gazette," of an article in the December number of "Blackwood's Magazine." The writer, in the course of an able article on the "Army Medical Department," represents the medical officer as having probably been roused before daylight from a very rough bivouac and, after a scanty meal, including, if he is lucky, a cup of hot tea or coffee; ridden for hours through clouds of dust or amidst a sea of mud. Everybody is sleepy and tired or silent under the mental strain inseparable from the consciousness of an impending crisis. Suddenly there is a galloping of orderlies and an increased amount of flag-signaling, and almost simultaneously the roar of artillery is heard. The enemy is in front in position, and the first act of a great drama has commenced. The battalion is halted for a time, and some of the men begin to fumble nervously with their accoutrements, some look with strained eyes in the direction of the coming battle. At last the order is given for an advance, the thunder of the guns becomes more and more distinct and probably some of the enemy's shells are heard shrieking overhead. The medical officer receives a message from a superior pointing out to him a spot, somewhat sheltered by a little eminence, as the dressing station, and he sees a tent being pitched, while a small knot of vehicles and animals are collected round, and the white flag emblazoned with the red cross waves over it. But his battalion is still advancing and he follows. Probably he passes two or three huddled-up and shattered objects, which are all that is left of some gallant soldiers, and he sees some wounded men with pale, drawn faces staggering to the rear. All the officers near him have drawn their swords, and there is a sympathetic quiver of nervous excitement in the ranks which is almost as nearly allied to fear as it is to courage; but he must keep himself perfectly cool, thinking of nothing but his personal duty. Some orders are given and the battalion extends. Perhaps the Colonel or one of the senior officers finds time to tell him that a movement is to be made against a feature in the country in front which is occupied by the enemy, and he knows that his work must soon commence.

Now the whistle of rifle-bullets seems to fill the air, and the ground is knocked up at his feet by something like the heavy raindrop of a thunder shower. Ah! at last he hears the cry, "Where is the surgeon?" passed from the front, and he runs forward through the fire, which is searching the ground pretty closely. Two men have fallen. One he sees at once is past all aid. He turns to the other, and, kneeling beside him, finds that he has been shot through the leg. A bone has been smashed, and there is a good deal of bleeding, but he is able, from the equipment carried by his orderly, to apply the necessary splints to the fractured limb, and adjust a tourniquet to control the loss of blood; he then affixes to the man a tally naming the nature of the wound and the treatment adopted, and helps him on to the stretcher, which two of the bearers have brought up. "Take him to the collecting station." Again and again he hears the call for his assistance, and backwards and forwards he runs on his errands of mercy. "Why has No. 2 stretcher not returned?" "One of the bearers has been killed." Well, some of the wounded must lie where they are till the action is over." The medical officer does what he can for each victim, and if he himself is still unscathed at the end of the day, which, considering that he has been more exposed than almost anybody, is not too probable, he at last manages to collect most of them and to convey them to a place of some shelter where they can be duly attended to. Smeared with blood, fainting from exhaustion, and weary in mind from prolonged effort, he has now to brace himself to assist his colleagues in a long night's work of the most delicate operations, of the most anxious thought, and, still unreposed, he may probably have to accompany his battalion on the following day.

CLUBBING CLUB MEN.

San Francisco society, as we learn from the "Examiner" of that city, is full of thrill at the wild warfare waging between six club men of eminence, ability and appetite—six lusty men in buckram or in Lincoln green, and Lieut. Col. S. B. M. Young, 4th Cav., lately on duty at the Yosemite National Park, at Wagon, Cal. The club men, it appears, carried arms while in the park, in violation of the rules. Col. Young sent a mounted squad to "round up, disarm, arrest and take from Hetch Hetchy to Wagon, a matter of some seventy-five miles, those six club men armed cap-a-pie, and used some force in doing it. The remarks along the trail on that occasion are said to have made Uncle Toby's army in Flanders seem like 30 cents just before Christmas." The club men presented their case to the Secretary of the Interior and the local Senator also took a hand against the Colonel. A copy of the complaint was sent to the latter for remark. A portion of his reply is excellent reading, and we give it verbatim, as follows:

"As to the personnel of the complainants, as set forth in the complaint (pages 7 and 8), admitting specifically

that they are several members of various social and luncheon clubs as stated, and that they are respectively members, officers, agents and employees of the several firms, corporations and professions indicated, and admitting further that their social, commercial and financial standing is as high as their respective descriptive lists seem to intimate, I am unable to see that the facts so stated and admitted are in any way or in any degree relevant to the subject matter of their complaint. If they are relevant, I might plead in reply a list of clubs and other organizations with which I have had the honor to be associated. This I see no occasion to do. If they believed that by reason of their exalted social, commercial and professional standing the rules of the park would not be enforced against them, the experience of the complainants should have undeceived them. If they had any impression that only 'sheep-herders or cattlemen who were violating the law and flagrantly breaking the rules established by the Secretary of the Interior' (Complaint, p. 33) were subject to arrest and expulsion from the park, the impression should by this time have been removed. They themselves were 'violating the law and flagrantly breaking the rules,' and the same course was followed with them that is followed with all trespassers and violators of the rules, whether sheep-herders and cattlemen or gentlemen in professional or commercial life. If they really expected any other or different treatment when detected in a deliberate breach of the regulations, they must acknowledge a spirit of lawlessness by which they meant to place themselves above the law. I append hereto a copy of a plaintive letter received by me from Mr. Donald Y. Campbell, attorney and counsellor-at-law, etc., etc., dated July 17, 1896 (Exhibit VI.). In consequence of this letter Mr. Campbell's pistol was returned to him, and he was permitted to retain it for the purposes set forth in the letter—to protect himself, his sisters and his niece from traps, rattlesnakes and coyotes. This permit, issued in July for such a purpose, is used by Mr. Campbell in September as a warrant for the presence in the park of eight men with rifles. It is quite unnecessary to comment on the good faith of such a proceeding."

Col. Young is evidently not afraid of a Senator, for he goes on to say:

"The letter of Mr. George C. Perkins, United States Senator from California, which accompanies this complaint and is referred to me therewith, is worthy of the serious attention of the Department. There is no reason why Mr. Perkins should not vouch for the social standing and credit of these complainants in support of their own averments on that point. But when Mr. Perkins, on a statement of facts made by one side only, goes so far out of his way as to denounce my conduct as 'hasty, ill-considered and very reprehensible,' he is guilty of gross injustice. I am not, however, concerned about Mr. Perkins' opinion of me or of my official actions, except as they may indicate the character of this complaint and of these complainants. It is presumed that a complaint of this nature is to be received and acted upon by the Secretary in a quasi judicial character. If I had any doubt as the character of the complaint, and of those by whom it is preferred, it would be removed by this open and scandalous attempt to influence the judicial action of the Secretary by the official influence of a Senator in Congress. I shall be prepared, on reasonable notice and with the leave of my superior officers, to meet any investigation of this affair which the Department may see fit to make."

RIFLE FIRING, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

1st Lieut. John Little, 14th Inf., A. D. C., Inspector of Small Arms Practice, Department of Texas, in his annual report of target firing for 1896, gives complete tables of the shooting, and says:

"Company G, 18th Infantry, has the highest average percentage in the Department, and Troop G, 5th Cavalry, the lowest. Lack of ammunition prevented three organizations from holding volley firing. Pvt. Samuel E. Acuff, Company D, 18th Infantry, stands first among sharpshooters with a score of 597, or 74.6 per cent. It will be seen that there has been a general decrease in the average percentage which is especially noticeable in skirmish and volley firing. However, as this is practically the first year's firing with the new arms the result is all that could be expected, and with the addition of a wind-gauge to the sights it is probable that the results attained with the Springfield rifle will be surpassed. It is, however, noticed that whereas the number of sharpshooters has decreased but very little the number of third-class men has increased very largely. I believe that if troop and company commanders would devote more time and attention to the poorer shots of their commands many of those now in the third class could be brought into the higher classes. Judging from the relatively very large number of sharpshooters, I believe that the required aggregate for this class—which should be an exceptional one—is too low. It is to be regretted that collective firing has been so curtailed by lack of ammunition, but it is believed that this difficulty will not exist in the future as the credit that each organization can obtain by turning in empty shells should so increase the annual allowance as to make it ample for all contemplated firing. Only three of the seven posts in this department (Forts Bliss, Clark and Ringgold) have their target ranges on government land, three (Forts Brown, McIntosh and Sam Houston) leasing land for this purpose, and one (Camp Eagle Pass) practicing, through the courtesy of the owners, on land adjoining the post. A board of officers appointed by the Department Commander has examined several tracts of land in the vicinity of Fort Sam Houston with the view of securing a permanent range for this post. It is earnestly hoped that this much needed range will be secured at any early date. In obedience to instructions from the Department Commander all troop and company commanders in the department have submitted reports of the defects discovered in the new magazine arms and ammunition. These reports are virtually unanimous in recommending a wind gauge and a better graduated sight. Many of them also recommend a stronger main-spring and a thinner front-sight, and that the sights be placed closer to the barrel. In several instances cartridges jammed in the magazine during rapid fire. However, no radical defects were discovered in the rifle or carbine, and many of the reports speak of the new arms as eminently satisfactory and far superior to the Springfield arms."

The reports on ammunition show that in the case of cartridges loaded with Leonard smokeless powder a large percentage, in some cases as much as 33 per cent., of the shells were ruptured when the cartridges exploded, but all were ruptured at the neck and without injury to the piece or inconvenience to the soldier firing. In the case of the cartridge loaded with Peyton smokeless powder but few of the shells were ruptured, in some instances but one in a thousand, but always at the rim, causing serious damage to the bolt or magazine gate,

usually temporarily deafening the soldier, sometimes imbedding grains of powder in his face and partially blinding him for a short time, and always with the effect of making him nervous about firing his piece. The Leonard powder is reported to be the stronger powder of the two, judging by the number of ruptured shells, but it is possible that the shells loaded with this powder furnished this season were shells from last year that had become weakened during the process of reloading, or possibly the neck does not fit closely in the chamber. So the trouble may not be in the Leonard powder, but in the shell. There was no serious trouble occasioned by using this powder, but in several instances with the Peyton powder where an explosion occurred the effects were serious. In general the firing qualities of both powders were satisfactory. In conclusion I earnestly recommend that a system of annual competitions be again established, as without this incentive target practice will become a mere routine duty, disagreeable to many, and offering but little inducement for extraordinary efforts on the part of expert shots."

RETIREMENTS AND PROMOTIONS—1897.

A number of important changes will occur in the personnel of the Army and Navy during the present year. In the Army two Department Commanders will be retired, Maj. Gen. T. H. Ruger, the second ranking officer of the Army, commanding the Department of the East, with headquarters at New York, on April 2, and Brig. Gen. Frank Wheaton, commanding the Department of the Colorado, on May 8. It is expected that Gen. Ruger will be succeeded in his command by Maj. Gen. Wesley Merritt, now commanding the Department of the Missouri, unless he should prefer to retain his present position. The Department of the Missouri is in some respects the most important command in the gift of the President, containing as it does a larger number of posts, officers and men than any other. The Department of the East, however, is regarded as perhaps the most desirable, on account of its geographical situation in the oldest and most highly developed section of the country, and because it includes all the fortifications on the Atlantic coast except Galveston. The vacancy in the grade of Major General, caused by Gen. Ruger's retirement, would naturally fall to Gen. Wheaton, but his early retirement in May is being presented as an argument for the selection of one of the younger brigadier generals having longer to serve. The two retirements mentioned will make vacant two important commands, and will create a number of promotions all through the line, with a probable general transfer of commands among general officers.

An earlier retirement than either of these will be that of Brig. Gen. M. R. Morgan, Commissary General of Subsistence, which occurs on the 18th of the present month. Col. T. C. Sullivan, principal assistant to the Commissary General, is next in line of promotion, but his own retirement in November may militate against his appointment. Eligible officers who may receive the billet are Col. M. H. Bell, Chief Commissary of the Department of the Colorado, and Lieut. Col. S. T. Cushing, W. A. Elderkin and W. H. Nash. Col. Cushing is on duty in Washington. Col. Elderkin in Chicago and Col. Nash at Vancouver Barracks.

Another important retirement is that of Brig. Gen. W. P. Craighill, Chief of Engineers, who will be relieved from active service on account of age July 1. Col. H. M. Robert, stationed in New York, and Col. John M. Wilson, in charge of public buildings and grounds at Washington, are next in line of promotion. President Cleveland is understood to favor the appointment of Col. Wilson.

Brig. Gen. G. D. Ruggles, Adjutant General, will retire Sept. 11, and the two officers next in rank in that department are Col. Samuel Breck, Adjutant General to Gen. Miles, and Col. H. C. Corbin, at New York. Col. Breck and Col. Corbin each have strong friends in the next Administration, but Col. Greene's seniority and record are likely to secure his appointment. The precedent of appointment by seniority of rank to the office of Adjutant General has thus far never been broken.

Before the year 1825 there was no corps of Adjutant Generals. Col. Roger Jones, who was appointed Adjutant General, March 7, 1825, held the office until his death, July 15, 1852, and was succeeded by the next senior, Col. Samuel Cooper, July 15, 1852. Cooper resigned March 2, 1861, and was succeeded March 7, 1861, by Lorenzo Thomas, the Senior Assistant Adjutant General. Thomas was retired Feb. 22, 1869, and was succeeded by the next senior, Edward D. Townsend, Feb. 22, 1869. Townsend was retired June 15, 1880, and was succeeded, June 15, 1880, by Richard C. Drum, who headed the list. Drum was retired May 28, 1880, and was succeeded by the then Senior Assistant Adjutant General, John C. Kelton, June 7, 1880. Gen. Fry, who was Kelton's senior, having in the meantime been retired, July 1, 1881, at his own request. Gen. Kelton was retired June 24, 1892, and was succeeded by the senior, Robert Williams, Nov. 5, 1893. Williams was succeeded by Gen. Geo. D. Ruggles, Nov. 6, 1893, the present incumbent. Gens. Whipple and McKeever, who were both senior to General Ruggles, were retired for age; the former, Aug. 2, 1890, and the latter on Aug. 31, 1893.

The Journal is able to say—and say advisedly—that Col. Corbin will in every way possible favor the promotion of Gen. Breck, to be Adjutant General on the retirement of Gen. Ruggles.

Three flag officers of the Navy will retire during 1897: Rear Adm. John G. Walker, president of the Light House Board, who will retire March 20; Rear Adm. Francis M. Ramsay, Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, who will retire April 5, and Rear Adm. George Brown, the present ranking Admiral of the Navy, now Commandant of the Norfolk Navy Yard, who will retire June 10. These retirements will make important changes in the Navy, and considerable speculation is afloat in connection therewith.

During 1897, Commos. J. N. Miller, Montgomery Sicard and E. O. Matthews will become Rear Admirals. Commo. R. L. Phythian, superintendent of the Naval Observatory, will retire in July next and Commo. R. R. Wallace will follow in November. Other naval officers who will retire during the present year are Medical Directors H. M. Wells and T. N. Penrose, Pay Director Saspar Schenck, Chief Engr. W. W. Dungan, S. L. P. Ayres, and Robert Potts, Chaplain J. K. Lewis, Naval Constr. F. L. Fernald, Comdrs. Z. L. Tanner and J. C. Morong and Prof. Simon Newcomb, of the Nautical Almanac Office.

Capt. Robley D. Evans is considered a possible successor of Adm. Walker as president of the Light House Board, on the latter's retirement. Upon the retirement of Rear Adm. Brown, Rear Adm. William A. Kirkland will have the honor of being the ranking officer of the Navy. The new administration is expected to detach Rear Adm. Bunce from the command of the North Atlantic Squadron, that officer having completed a term of two years' sea duty next June. Rear Adm. Lester A. Beardslee, commanding the Pacific station, is expected to retain his present station till the close of this ad-

ministration. Comdr. Charles H. Davis may succeed Commo. Phythian as superintendent of the Naval Observatory. Rear Adm. Selfridge and Rear Adm. McNair, it is expected, will be relieved from the command of the European and Asiatic stations respectively. Commo. Sicard, who is spoken of as a possible successor of Adm. Ramsay, as chief of the Bureau of Navigation, may get a squadron command, probably the North Atlantic Squadron. Commo. George Dewey is slated for the Pacific station by the present administration, and it is regarded as practically certain that he will be assigned to this billet. Rear Adm. Joseph N. Miller may succeed Rear Adm. Selfridge and Capt. Albert Kautz who will be promoted to flag duty during the summer, may also be expected to receive sea duty.

EXTRA SESSIONS OF CONGRESS.

As it is proposed to call Congress in extra session in March, it may be well to recall what James G. Blaine says of extra sessions in his "Twenty Years in Congress." On page 54, volume II., we find this:

"To the Executive Department of the Government, Congress, even in its regular sessions, is a guest whose coming is not welcomed with half the heartiness with which its departure is speeded. But an extra session, especially at the beginning of an Administration, is looked upon with almost superstitious aversion, and is always to be avoided if possible. It was remembered that all the woes of the elder Adams' Administration, all the intrigues which the choleric President fancied that Hamilton was carrying on against him in connection with our French difficulties, had their origin in the extra session of May, 1797. It was remembered also that the unpopularity which attached to the Presidency of Mr. Madison was connected with the two extra sessions which his timid Administration was perhaps too ready to assemble. So deeply was hostility to extra sessions implanted in the minds of political leaders by the misfortunes of Adams and Madison that another was not called for a quarter of a century. In September, 1837, Mr. Van Buren inaugurated the ill-fortune of his Administration by assembling Congress three months in advance of its regular session. John Tyler in turn never recovered from the discussions and disasters of the extra session of May, 1841—though it was precipitated upon him by a call issued by President Harrison. All these extra sessions except the one in Mr. Van Buren's Administration, had been held in May, and even in his case the proclamation summoning Congress was issued in May. No wonder, therefore, that ill-luck came to be associated with that month. When the necessity of assembling Congress was forced upon Mr. Lincoln by the firing on Sumter, Mr. Seward warned him that in any event he must not have the session begin in May."

THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

No efforts have been spared in organizing the great Military and Athletic Tournament, which is to be held at Madison Square Garden during the week, January 11 to 16. The purpose of the tournament is to raise funds to secure hospital beds in the city of New York for members of the National Guard. The Managing Committee, which consists of Col. George Moore Smith, 69th Regt., chairman; Capt. Charles Seiter, 12th Regt.; Capt. Walter Schuyler, 7th Regt.; Maj. Thurston, 22d Regt.; Col. C. H. Luscomb, 13th Regt.; Maj. Gillon, 14th Regt.; Lieut. E. L. Butts, U. S. A.; Lieut. H. D. Wise, U. S. A.; Daniel J. Smith, N. Y. Herald; has been untiring in its labors to make it the success which it seems destined to be. The War Department, the Major General commanding the Department of the East, the Governor of New York, and the officers of the regular Army and the National Guard have done everything in their power to assist the committee in its work, and the result will probably be the most remarkable and the most interesting entertainment ever held in this country. The Regular Army derives no direct benefit from this entertainment, but they have entered into it with a spirit which shows hearty approval of its benevolent object. The programme includes all of the usual features of an athletic meet, and, in addition, one feature which is of unusual interest to military men. It is the one-half mile run in campaign uniform and equipment. This race will test the grit and endurance of the contestants to the utmost, and its novelty will add to its interest. But the programme is not interesting from an athletic point of view, only, for each night, exhibition of a purely military character will be given.

Every night Capt. Dodd's Troop F, 3d U. S. Cavalry, will give an exhibition of riding and horsemanship, which will be a revelation to many persons unfamiliar with our cavalry service.

On three nights Capt. Thorp's Light Battery, from Fort Hamilton, will give an exhibition of driving and maneuvering field pieces.

On three nights a detachment of the 13th Infantry, from Governors Island, will give an exhibition of military gymnastics, wall scaling, etc.

The National Guard will be represented by some of its crack organizations.

Troop C of Brooklyn will ride one night, and the 1st and 2d Batteries and the 2d Battery Gatling Guns will also give exhibitions and also several other fine commands.

It seems an assured fact that the capacity of Madison Square Garden will be taxed to its utmost extent every night.

A SAILORS' REST IN BROOKLYN.

The officers of the Navy in the vicinity of New York under the lead of Capt. F. J. Higginson, have undertaken an important enterprise which should receive the cordial support of every one interested in the welfare of our "Blue Jackets," and of the Navy that depends upon their character and fidelity for its efficiency. These officers are proposing to establish a Sailors' Rest, after the model of foreign institutions of that character, and they have to encourage them the evidence of the great success of such institutions abroad. It is proposed to locate the Rest in the immediate vicinity of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and to make it a place so attractive to the Jackies that they will seek it in preference to wasting their money, and destroying health and reputation in the disreputable resorts of Greater New York. The plan includes all the usual comforts and conveniences of club life—sleeping rooms, a restaurant, baths, barber shops and possibly a safe deposit vault in which the sailors can store away their valuables. If the plan is carried out with wisdom, as it promises to be, the Rest will become a home for the better class of sailors, and

will encourage their enlistment in the United States service. It is intended to raise from \$150,000 to \$200,000 to purchase the necessary grounds and erect the building, for which the site has already been prospectively selected. To obtain this money, an appeal will be made to the liberal-hearted citizens of New York, who are always ready to bestow their largess upon institutions that awaken their sympathies and secure their confidence. Capt. Higginson has very encouraging promises of assistance from this class of men. To bring them together and ascertain what they are individually willing to do, a meeting will be held in the rooms of the Chambers of Commerce, New York, next week. The fact that the Chamber has been willing to allow this use of its rooms, is in itself encouraging evidence of interest in the enterprise.

Invitations to attend this meeting have been sent to a large number of prominent gentlemen, and it is hoped that most of them will be able to be present. Those invited represent that class of patriotic and public-spirited citizens from whom our government obtained many millions, in voluntary contributions during our Civil War. They are intelligent men, and cannot fail to understand that if it was wist to spend so much money to carry on a great war, involving the honor of the country and the perpetuity of its institutions, it is equally wise to spend some small part of the vast sums expended upon war in taking measures to prevent war.

There has been a very great improvement in recent years in the character of the men enlisting for our Navy, and the Navy officers having the welfare of the service at heart should be encouraged in still further improving an institution whose credit involves national honor and national self-respect. They will not be found backward in contributing to the Sailor's Rest, to the extent of their ability, but the pecuniary responsibility involved is beyond their possibilities. Hence this appeal to others who have an equal interest with them in the success of this excellent enterprise.

There seems to be no doubt that Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York, has been offered, and has accepted the Secretaryship of the Navy, under Mr. McKinley's administration. It is said this arrangement was accomplished at Mr. Hanna's home in Cleveland, on Monday afternoon in Mr. Bliss' presence. It is the first definite step toward the construction of the cabinet.

There are indications that success will follow the efforts to relieve our soldiers on the retired list from the deduction of 12½ cents per month from their pay for the maintenance of the Soldiers' Home at Washington, D. C. The amount is small, it is true, but taken from a small income, the deduction is felt; besides there is a principle involved. To forcibly take even this amount from a soldier's pay without his consent is in the nature of highway robbery. It is impossible to defend this exaction as a matter of principle.

The third paragraph in the article entitled "An Artillery Protest," appearing in the "Journal" of Dec. 26, should have read as follows: "Gen. Schofield, in his report for 1890, suggests that steps be taken without delay to organize heavy artillery forces from the States. 'Regimental organizations,' he says, 'for such artillery batteries are not necessary, and probably not desirable at the present time, although there is no objection to such organizations if the State authorities prefer them.' The General had suggested just previously 'that steps be taken without delay to organize in all of the seaboard States a due proportion of heavy batteries.'"

Mr. Edward P. Thompson, M. E., has received from Lord Kelvin (Sir William Thompson, F. R. S.), this expression of opinion concerning his work on the X-rays: "I received it only a few days ago, but I have already looked nearly all through it with great interest. I have seen enough to know that I shall find much most useful information in it which will be always readily available, because of the very excellent method and care with which you have given references to authors' dates and publications, and I am sure that all who are interested in the subject will find your book exceedingly valuable. All your statements with reference to anything I have done on the subject are perfectly correct. I believe that hitherto nothing in the way of diffraction has been discovered for the Röntgen rays."

Referring to a recent recommendation by a Department Inspector of Small Arms Practice, "that a system of annual competitions be again established, as without this incentive target practice will become a mere routine duty, disagreeable to many, and offering but little inducement for extraordinary efforts on the part of expert shots," a worthy company commander writes: "This seems to be a reflection that 'mere routine duties' are not faithfully carried out, and an implication that when duty is not agreeable it will be shirked. The system of annual competitions, as formerly in vogue, was sometimes carried to a farcical extent and was in the nature of a junketing trip for the many who, I am sorry to say, are glad to embrace any opportunity to escape 'mere routine duty,' deeming it irksome and 'disagreeable.'"

Capt. G. A. Dodds, Troop F, of the 3d U. S. Cav., has had a full share of attention from the New York press this week, owing to the proposition that the National Guard should meet the regulars on their arrival in the city on Sunday morning next and escort them to their quarters at Madison Square Garden. This desire to do honor to the gallant troopers coming so far to assist in a benevolent effort in behalf of the National Guard has been rudely interfered with by an appeal, in certain sections, to the requirements of the law with regard to parades on Sunday. But the courtesy it is desired to show them may be extended in some other form on a week day. A theater party would be just the thing. If they are taken to the theater where one of the actresses comes forward every night with a copy of the "Army and Navy Journal" in her hand, they will feel themselves perfectly at home.

Secretary Herbert on Thursday issued orders for a court martial to assemble on the 11th inst., at Washington Navy Yard, to try Ensign N. T. Coleman, inspector of steel at Harrisburg, Pa., for alleged neglect of duty. The case of this officer has been giving the Department trouble for several months. Instructions were sent to Ensign Coleman, which involved additional work in connection with steel inspection, according to a Department official, but he failed to follow them. The authorities waited a reasonable time for a reply, and as none came, another communication was sent him, directing him to reply to the Department's original letter. After a few days, as no reply had yet been received, the Secretary sent a registered letter, asking Coleman why he had not written to the Department as directed. Mr. Coleman then replied that his labors were so laborious that he was unable to perform the extra work required by the Department's instructions. Thereupon Secretary Herbert directed the preparation of charges of disobedience of orders and violation of Navy Regulations and ordered a court martial.

RECENT DEATHS.

Maj. Truman H. Burrill, who died Dec. 30, at his home in Brooklyn, served faithfully during the war as Captain and Commissary of Subsistence of Volunteers, receiving the brevet of Major.

Col. Philip Duncan Elkins, father of Senator Stephen B. Elkins, former Secretary of War, died Jan. 3, at the residence of his son, at Elkins, W. Va. He was born in 1809, and had an eventful career.

Pay Inspector Charles Fox Guild, U. S. N., retired, who died Jan. 1 at the City Hospital, Boston, Mass., was appointed Admiral's secretary (Admiral Porter), Jan. 20, 1863, Acting Asst. Paymaster in 1864, attained the grade of Pay Inspector in 1886 and was retired for disability incident to service in 1888. He had an excellent record in his department.

Passed Asst. Surg. Patrick H. Bryant, U. S. N., who died Dec. 28, 1896, at Newport, R. I., of cerebral hemorrhage, was appointed Assistant Surgeon from Tennessee in 1888, and was promoted P. A. Surgeon in 1891. He was on duty at the Naval Station, Newport, at the time of his death.

Capt. William H. Parker, who died suddenly in Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, was the son of the late Captain. Foxhall A. Parker, Sr., U. S. N., and a brother of Col. Daingerfield Parker, U. S. A. At the beginning of the Civil War he was Assistant Professor of Nautical Astronomy and Mathematics at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, holding at that time the rank of Lieutenant. He resigned to enter the Confederate Navy, where he held a high rank. He commanded the Beaufort at the time of the action between the Merrimac and Monitor, and afterward occupied many positions of trust, becoming eventually the Superintendent of the Naval School for Confederate midshipmen at Richmond. After the war he commanded one of the Pacific Mail steamers for a number of years; was afterward president of the Maryland Agricultural College, and during President Cleveland's first administration U. S. Minister to Corea. He was a man of brilliant attainments and astronomer and mathematician of note, and before the Civil War his brother, Commo. Foxhall A. Parker, Jr., and himself wrote most of the tactical books in use in the Navy. Besides this he was the author of "Familiar Talks on Astronomy," "Recollections of a Naval Officer" and of many magazine articles, etc. He had lately been engaged upon a history of the Confederate Navy, which he was commissioned to write by the Virginia Historical Society and which is to be published in connection with Gen. Fitzhugh Lee's "History of the Confederate Army." Capt. Parker had many friends to whom he was endeared by his lovable traits of character, while to these with whom he was associated, even casually, his delightful social qualities and remarkable talents as a raconteur rendered him a most charming companion. He leaves a widow, but no children.

Ord. Sergt. Leodegar Schnyder, U. S. A., retired, died at his home at Tobias, Neb., Dec. 19, aged 83 years 7 months and 21 days. He served in the United States Army continuously for 53 years; was stationed at Fort Laramie for 37 years; was appointed Ordnance Sergeant Dec. 1, 1852, and was retired in 1890. He was a sufferer from paralysis for two years previous to his death. His wife, one son and four daughters survive him.

Gen. Francis Amasa Walker, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who died at Boston, Jan. 5, served with distinction during the war, principally as an Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, serving on the staffs of Gens. Couch, Warren, Sedgwick, and Hancock. He was wounded at Chancellorsville in 1863, and was captured once and confined in Libby prison. He was a staunch friend and admirer of the late Gen. Hancock. Since the war he has held many responsible public positions and was the author of several works, financial, statistical, etc., including a "History of the Second Army Corps."

Rear Adm. Joseph S. Skerrett, U. S. N., retired, who died about midnight of Dec. 30, was appointed to the Navy from Ohio in 1848. When the War of the Rebellion broke out he had attained the grade of Lieutenant, serving then on the coast of Africa, he returned home in 1863, having in the meantime been promoted Lieutenant Commander, and was placed in command of the gunboat Katahdin. He rendered valuable service during the war and after it held responsible positions at home and abroad. He attained the grade of Rear Admiral in April, 1894, and was retired at his own request July 9 following.

Lieut. John H. C. Coffin, U. S. N., who died suddenly Jan. 4 at the quarters of his brother, Lieut. W. H. Coffin, 5th U. S. Art., at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., was the son of the late Prof. J. H. C. Coffin, U. S. N. The deceased officer was born in 1849; was appointed midshipman in 1865, and attained the grade of Lieutenant in 1877. The remains were taken by his brother to Washington, D. C., for interment.

Maj. George M. Townsend, of the 2d Battalion of the 1st Regiment of New Jersey, and a veteran of the civil war, died at his home, No. 27 Rowland street, Newark, N. J., Jan. 6, from pneumonia.

LATE ARMY ORDERS.

The following assignments of officers are announced: Col. David Perry, to the 9th Cav., vice Biddle, retired; Lieut. Col. John M. Hamilton, to the 9th Cav., vice Randall, retired; Lieut. Col. Theodore A. Baldwin, to the 10th Cav., vice Perry, promoted; Maj. Edward S. Godfrey, to 1st Cav., vice Hamilton, promoted; Maj. Albert G. Forse, to 7th Cav., vice Baldwin, promoted; Capt. Edwin P. Brewer, to 7th Cav., vice Godfrey, promoted; Capt. Montgomery D. Barker, to 7th Cav., vice Mathey, retired; Capt. Oscar J. Brown, to 1st Cav., vice Forse, promoted; 1st Lieut. Charles D. Rhodes, to 7th Cav., vice Holbrook, appointed Adjutant; 1st Lieut. Winthrop S. Wood, to 9th Cav., vice Parker, promoted; Addl. 2d Lieut. Elvin R. Heiberg, 3d Cav., to 2d Lieutenant 6th Cav., vice Rhodes, promoted; Lieut. Col. John M. Hamilton, 9th Cav., will report to commanding General, Dept. Platte for assignment to station. The Secretary of War orders the following transfers: Maj. Edward S. Godfrey, 1st Cav., to 7th Cav.; Maj. Albert G. Forse, 7th Cav., to 1st Cav. The following named officers will report to their respective Department Commanders for assignment to stations: Maj. Edward S. Godfrey, 7th Cav.; Maj. Albert G. Forse, 1st Cav.; Lieut. Col. Theodore A. Baldwin, 10th Cav., will report to commanding General, Dept. Dakota, for assignment to station. Capt. Edwin P. Brewer, 7th Cav., will join his troop, 1st Lieut. Chas. D. Rhodes, 7th Cav., will remain on duty with 6th Cav until March 10, 1897, when he will join his troop. 1st Lieut. Winthrop S. Wood, 9th Cav., will join his troop. The leave granted Maj. Charles C. Hood, 7th Inf., is extended three months. 2d Lieut. John Howard, 19th Inf., is relieved from duty at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., and will join his company not later than Jan. 25.

The leave granted Capt. R. K. Evans, 9th Inf., is extended two months. Capt. J. B. Aleshire, Q. M., ordered to Lathrop and Platte City to inspect horses. The leave granted Capt. E. F. Swift, Asst. Surg., extended two months. (S. O., H. Q. A., Jan. 8.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

JEFFERSON BARRACKS.—Your questions, being "anonymous," and besides evidently aimed at fomenting ill feeling and injury to superiors, will not be answered.

O. I. C. asks: Are the proceedings of a summary court martial legal when it has tried and sentenced a soldier without first placing the soldier in arrest. Answer.—Perfectly. Indeed, the entire object of the Summary Court Law of Oct. 1, 1890, is to do away with the protracted confinements, etc., for minor officers.

W. D.—Can an enlisted man on retired list enter Soldiers' Home without loss of retired pay? Answer.—Yes.

C.—The village is now called Sacket Harbor, N. Y., the proper way, as it takes the name from the Sacket family.

J. S.—There is a garrison of the Regular Army and Navy Union, which meets at 134 East Seventh street, New York City, on the first and third Mondays of each month. It is known as Christopher Columbus No. 78.

N. G.—Enlistments in the Navy are for three years. Properly qualified seamen receive from \$19 to \$24 per month. No person can be enlisted as a landsman if over 25 years of age, unless he possesses a mechanical trade, nor over 35, even though he has such trade. A landsman's pay is \$16 per month. Apply at Navy Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y.

D. asks: "Is a soldier on the retired list entitled to witness fees when summoned and appearing as witness before a general court martial? Answer.—No.

T. L. M.—The Army Regulations of 1895 might suit your purpose. We can furnish you the book at cost of \$1.60, postpaid. A book by Gen. A. V. Kautz, entitled "Customs of the Service," was published several years ago, but is now, we understand, out of print, and is only to be found in private or public libraries.

J. T. M.—You must have an ordinary English education, a knowledge of accounts and be able to furnish the necessary bond.

D. O.—There will be a vacancy in the First District of Indiana for Annapolis in 1901. West Point is now vacant.

H. L. B. asks why the new ships of the U. S. Navy are not provided with torpedo nettings? Answer.—The Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy does not approve of torpedo nettings on account of their great weight, and cumbersome, which greatly interferes with the progress of a ship through the water. They are of little use, unless the ship be at anchor, and even they may be rendered useless by the attachments to torpedoes which will cut through the netting. The subject of adopting torpedo nettings was thoroughly considered by the Navy Department a few years ago and abandoned. They were rejected as valueless. Nearly all nations are discarding them at the present time.

E. G. S.—In your last week's issue I saw a card of thanks from Lieut. H. T. Reed, U. S. A., for all the kind notices his new book, "Cadet Life at West Point," had received. Since childhood I have been familiar with a book having the same title, "Cadet Life at West Point," by an officer of the United States Army, with a descriptive sketch of West Point by Benson J. Lossing. Can you tell me if this is the same as Lieut. Reed's, or only a book of the same name.

Answer.—The two books are not the same. The work you refer to was published in 1842. It was written by George C. Strong, a graduate of 1837, who was mortally wounded in the assault upon Fort Wagner, S. C., and died in New York City, July 30, 1863, aged 30.

A. G. S.—The size of glass depends on the number of vacancies. There are now six vacancies. Your physical defect might be deemed sufficient cause for rejection.

C. E. D.—A person who enlists in the Army may work himself up to a commission if he fulfills the requirements. See General Orders 79, A. G. O., Nov. 26, 1892, published in "Army and Navy Journal" at the time.

As you live in Detroit, why not call at the recruiting office, at 110 Woodward avenue, and you will get full information there.

A board of officers, consisting of Col. James Gilliss, Deputy Q. M. Gen.; Maj. Henry M. Adams, Corps of Engineers, and Maj. John D. Hall, Surg., has been ordered to meet at Fort Wadsworth, N. Y., shortly to select a site for the hospital to be erected at that post.

PERSONALS.

Lieut. J. T. Crabbs, 8th Cav., visited friends at Governors Island on Jan. 6.

Lieut. Col. C. A. Wikoff visited friends in New York City this week, making his headquarters at the Windsor. He is on leave, with address 103 South Fourth street, Easton, Pa.

Lieut. H. S. Hawkins, Jr., 4th Cav., who has been visiting his parents, Colonel and Mrs. Hawkins, at Fort Leavenworth, since before the holidays, left this week for Fort Walla Walla.

Miss Marie Schenck, of Fort Warren, Mass., who is spending the winter with friends in New Orleans, will be a bridesmaid at the wedding of Miss Lucille Foster, of Shreveport, La., and Representative McMillin, of Tennessee, to take place at Shreveport on Jan. 20. Miss Foster is a sister of the late Lieut. Clairbourne Foster, 5th U. S. Cav., is beautiful and talented and liked by all who know her.

The marriage of Miss Catherine Sampson, daughter of Capt. William T. Sampson, U. S. N., to Ensign Richard Harrison Jackson, U. S. N., took place at the Church of the Holy Convent, Washington, D. C., on the evening of Jan. 6. Miss Olive Farrington Sampson, sister of the bride, was flower girl, and Ensign L. C. Bertolette was best man. The ushers were Ensigns H. K. Benham, M. L. Bristol, L. H. Everhart, T. Washington and H. H. Whittlesey.

A pretty wedding was solemnized on New Year's eve at the residence of Mr. I. D. Cartwright, 2373 Robinwood avenue, Toledo, Ohio, when a hospital Steward Monckton-Dene, U. S. A., was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte C. Cole. The house was beautifully decorated with palms and flowers, the walls being draped with the national colors, out of a compliment to the groom. Hon. T. P. Brown, president of the T. F. & S. Railway Company, Mrs. Brown, Miss Mabel Brown and a number of other friends were present on the occasion.

Capt. A. W. Corliss, 8th Inf., whose promotion to Major is now not far off, was the recipient, on Christmas Day, of a remembrance from his company, C, in the shape of a handsome sash, with all the requisite attachments. The Knapsack, referring to the occasion, says: "None regrets more than the men of Co. C that Capt. Corliss' promotion will necessitate his assignment to some other regiment. He is a company commander acquainted with his men and their nature, and his intelligent guidance of the affairs of the company has won for him a warm place in the hearts of the men of Co. C, and, indeed, all who know him."

Capt. Robert M. Clark, of the Crawford, is visiting in Baltimore.

Capt. G. R. Stafford, 15th Inf., U. S. A., is at 221 East Capitol street, Washington.

Ensign R. H. Jackson, U. S. N., of the Puritan, is a guest of the Army and Navy Club, Washington, D. C. Lieut. W. E. Birkhimer, 3d Art., has transferred from the Oregon to the California Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Col. J. S. Casey, U. S. A., awaiting retirement, and his family are located at 104 Madison avenue, New York City.

Capt. B. L. Ten Eyck, Asst. Surg., U. S. A., on a few weeks leave from Columbus Barracks, is visiting at Newark, N. J.

Capt. J. McE. Hyde, U. S. A., is a recent transfer from the Oregon to the Massachusetts Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Capt. R. P. P. Wainwright, 1st U. S. Cav., is a recent transfer from the Kansas to the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion.

Capt. W. H. Baldwin, Commissary of Subsistence, U. S. A., expects to leave Chicago for San Francisco about the middle of January.

Lieut. F. W. Fuger, 13th Inf., on a few weeks' leave from Fort Columbus, is visiting his parents at Washington Barracks, District of Columbia.

Maj. W. M. Van Horne, 22d U. S. Inf., who is visiting at Columbus Barracks, Ohio, has had his leave extended so that he will not rejoin his regiment until spring.

Capt. C. B. Thompson, Q. M., at Columbus Barracks, left there January 2, to spend two months on leave. He is visiting at 1821 16th street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Miss Grimes is visiting her parents, Capt. and Mrs. Grimes, for the holidays. She brought two of her classmates with her, Miss Gizard and Miss Lincoln, of Waterman Hall.

Navy officers lately visiting in New York City are: Rear Admiral Meade, Comdr. E. T. Strong, Park Avenue; Surg. A. F. Magruder, Hoffman House; Asst. Surg. Lewis Morris, Albemarle.

The engagement is announced of Miss Anna Elizabeth Duryea, daughter of Gen. Hiram Duryea, of New York, to Mr. Fitzgerald Peopoe, second son of Maj. D. Peopoe, 4th Dragoons, British Army.

Maj. Gen. D. E. Sikes, U. S. A., who has been quite ill, the result of overwork and insomnia, is reported as improving. He has, however, been compelled to cancel many of his public and private engagements.

"Military Policy and Institutions," the title of a lecture delivered by Lieut. J. T. Dickman, 3d Cav., before the Infantry and Cavalry School, Fort Leavenworth, has been printed in pamphlet form for distribution.

Col. Isaac D. DeRussey, 11th Inf., Whipple Barracks, Ariz., met with a painful accident recently while out driving. His horse ran away and he was thrown from his buggy, breaking his right arm near the wrist.

Col. J. P. Canby, U. S. A., Chief Paymaster of the Department of the Colorado, who has reached the age of sixty-four years, retired on Thursday, after thirty-three years' service. Col. Canby is succeeded by Maj. C. C. Sniffen, who has been on duty in New York for two years.

An enjoyable reception was recently given in Jefferson City, Mo., by Mrs. Roach, wife of Capt. G. H. Roach, 17th U. S. Inf., to the officers of the Missouri National Guard, visiting this city to pay their respects to the Governor. Capt. Roach is on duty with the guard as Assistant Inspector General.

Army officers lately visiting New York City are: Capt. C. A. Stedman, the Netherlands; Lieut. J. T. Crabbs, Gen. J. Oakes, Grand Hotel; Capt. R. P. Strong, Albemarle; Lieut. W. R. Smith, St. Cloud; Lieut. G. O. Squier, Astor House; Gen. J. K. Mizner, the Savoy; Lieut. J. L. Barbour, Broadway Central.

Gen. Frank Wheaton has published in the form of a circular the results of the athletic competitions by selected army teams, held at the Denver Athletic Club Park, in October last, a full synopsis of which we published at the time. It is an interesting contribution to the gymnastic and calisthenic departments of the Army.

Assistant Secretary Hamlin, of the Treasury Department; S. I. Kimball, Superintendent Life-Saving Service, and Capt. C. F. Shoemaker, Chief of the Revenue Cutter Service, were among the officials of the Treasury Department who paid their respects to President Cleveland and Secretary Carlisle, on New Year's Day.

The Fort Leavenworth Dramatic Association gave its first performance Jan. 2 to a large audience. A double bill was presented, "The Mummy," by Lieut. J. R. M. Taylor, 23d U. S. Inf., and "The Spectre Knight," an operetta. The performance was most satisfactory, the amateurs in both pieces exhibiting much talent and adaptability.

The following officers of the Navy are in Washington, D. C.: Col. James Forney, U. S. M. C., at the Richmond, on leave. Ensign J. V. Chase, at 1811 Riggs place. Ensign T. Washington, U. S. N., at 1804 G street, N. W. Comdr. B. F. Tilley, U. S. N., at 1706 S street, N. W. Lieut. A. McCrackin, U. S. N., Lieut. R. C. Smith, U. S. N., at 1742 P street, N. W., on leave.

A very enjoyable euchre party was given by Maj., Mrs. and Miss Wilcox to the officers and ladies of the post of Fort Schuyler on New Year's eve. Mrs. and Miss Newcomb, Mr. and the Misses Wallace from Westchester, Mr. Stoddard, Capt. and Mrs. Eastman, Capt. and Mrs. Curtis, Lieut. and Mrs. Hoyle, Lieut. and Mrs. Krayenbuhl, Lieuts. Barney, Parker and Landon were present.

Capt. S. E. Maguire, of the Windom, was in Washington this week on private business. Chief Engr. Fred E. Owen was in Washington this week on leave. 2d Lieut. C. E. Johnston was at the Ebbitt House, Washington, this week. 2d Lieut. George C. Carmine passed a few days in Baltimore last week. 2d Lieut. W. W. Jaques, of the Life-Saving Service, was in Washington this week en route to his station.

Dr. Edward Kershner, formerly of the U. S. N., has been appointed by the Commissioners of Charities of New York, Chief of the Medical Staff of the hospital on Randall's Island. Since Dr. Kershner was dismissed from the Navy he has been elected vice-president of the Medical Alumni of the New York University and professor of hygiene of the Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital of this city, and is also a member of the Union League Club.

The following arrivals were among those reported at the Ebbitt House, Washington, D. C., for the week ending Jan. 6: Col. D. R. Larned, U. S. A.; R. F. Lopez, U. S. N.; Capt. Wm. Tisdall, U. S. A.; Capt. and Mrs. C. B. Ewing and daughter, U. S. A.; C. E. Johnston and wife, U. S. R. C. S.; F. E. Owen, U. S. R. C. S.; Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. E. H. Gheen, U. S. N.; Misses Gheen and maid; Paymr. and Mrs. H. T. Skelding, U. S. N.; Capt. Wm. H. Coffin and wife, U. S. A.

Lieut. B. T. Simmons, 16th Inf., is a recent arrival at Fort Spokane, Washington.

Lieut. S. J. Bayard Schindel, 6th Inf., left Fort Thomas, Ky., early in the week on a short leave.

Col. Rodney Smith, U. S. A., who is at present in Europe, reached his 67th birthday on January 3.

Lieut. F. P. Avery, 3d Inf., on leave from Fort Snelling, Minn., is visiting at Lynne Castle, Pass Christian, Miss.

Chief Engr. J. M. MacDougall, U. S. R. C. S., is at 41 Upton street, Boston, Mass., under medical treatment.

Lieut. Col. E. C. Woodruff, U. S. A., a resident of Convent Station, N. J., reached his 57th birthday on Jan. 6.

Mrs. Springer gave a breakfast in honor of Mrs. Barnitz Thursday morning, December 30, at Fort Thomas, Kentucky.

Lieut. W. H. Mullan, 21st Inf., on leave from Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., is spending a portion of it at Columbus, O.

Gen. Charles H. Tompkins, U. S. A., visited old friends in New York and Governors Island, who were very glad to see him again.

Capt. E. L. Zalinski, U. S. A., who has been absent for some time in Europe and Asia, returned January 2 to New York from England.

Capt. W. H. W. James, 24th Inf., of Fort Douglas, Utah, was expected in Santa Fe this week to enter upon duty with the National Guard of New Mexico.

Capt. and Mrs. Byrne gave a large reception at Fort Thomas, Dec. 29, in honor of Col. and Mrs. Barnitz, Miss Barnitz and Mrs. Stocking, who are spending the holidays there.

The next Army retirement for age is that on January 25 of Col. Oliver D. Greene, Asst. Adj. Gen., closely followed by that on January 28 of Col. James S. Casey, 22d U. S. Inf.

Capt. J. P. Story, 4th Art., and several other officers on holiday leave from Fort Monroe, rejoined there on Sunday last, and the Artillery School has now resumed its usual course.

Miss Marie Schenck, of Fort Warren, Mass., who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. W. C. Davis, at Fort Wadsworth, N. Y., has gone to New Orleans, to spend the winter with friends.

Mr. A. B. Gardiner, Jr., eldest son of Col. Asa Bird Gardiner, U. S. A., was married Jan. 6 at the South Congregational Church, Brooklyn, to Miss Mary Norcom Campbell, daughter of Mr. Howard Campbell.

The retirement for age January 7 of Col. J. P. Canby, Asst. Paym. Gen., promotes Lieut. Col. G. W. Candee, of the Pay Department to Colonel, Maj. A. E. Bates to Lieutenant Colonel, and leaves a vacancy for a Major and Paymaster.

Col. M. I. Ludington, Chief Q. M., on the staff of Maj. Gen. Merritt, has left Chicago on a trip to Oklahoma Territory. Upon his return to Chicago he will close his public business prior to assuming charge of the Q. M. Depot in New York City.

Numerous changes in the stations of officers of the Quartermaster's Department have recently been ordered, as will be seen from Army orders published this week. Lieut. Col. Kimball, who has been in San Francisco since November, 1894, goes to San Antonio; Lieut. Col. Smith, in San Antonio since May, 1893, to St. Louis; Col. J. M. Moore, in New York since November, 1892, to San Francisco; Lieut. Col. Lee, in San Francisco since March, 1893, to Chicago, and Col. M. I. Ludington, in Chicago since December, 1894, to New York City. Lieut. Col. Forsyth retains his station in St. Louis, but has no other duty than settling his accounts prior to retirement for age June 11 next.

The "New York Herald," referring to the Military Bicycle and Athletic Carnival, to be held in Madison Square Garden, January 11 to 16, says: "Perhaps the most interesting feature of the many brilliant attractions secured for the tournament or carnival will be the exhibition by Troop F, 3d U. S. Cavalry, in command of Capt. George A. Dodd. The detachment of the 13th Infantry troops, under Lieut. Col. Worth, which will give an exhibition of drill and gymnastic work, have begun active training for the carnival. Lieut. Butts, who is drilling the men for the event, says they will give an exhibition such as has never been seen before in public. All their maneuvers will be accompanied by music. One feature he thinks will make quite a hit will be the work of the men with the gun. Ordinary athletes use dumbbells, but Uncle Sam's boys will show that they can handle the musket just as well as the other fellows play with the dumbbells."

The lyceum season at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., includes essays by Col. William M. Graham, 5th Art., "A Cursory Review of the Light Artillery of the United States Army during the last Sixty Years;" Maj. J. G. Ramsay, 5th Art., "Notes—From Bladensburg to North Point and New Orleans, 1814-1815;" Capt. G. W. Crabb, 5th Art., "Use of Hygrometer in Artillery Target Practice;" Capt. B. K. Roberts, 5th Art., "Modern Guns and Warfare;" Capt. Frank Thorp, 5th Art., "A Sketch of the Land Forces of the United States;" Capt. E. R. Hilla, 5th Art., "The Instruction of the Heavy Artillery Soldier;" Lieut. H. C. Carbaugh, 5th Art., "The Present Status of Field Artillery;" Lieut. William F. Hancock, 5th Art., "Military Instruction at Colleges;" Lieut. O. I. Straub, 5th Art., "The German Military System;" Lieut. William H. Coffin, 5th Art., "Line Organization and Armament of the Principal European Powers;" Lieut. G. G. Gately, 5th Art., "Field Artillery Target Practice;" Lieut. E. F. McGlathlin, 5th Art., "The Organization of a Demolition Corps;" Lieut. C. P. Summerall, 5th Art., "The Training of Recruits for the Military Service;" Lieut. R. E. Callan, 5th Art., "Napoleon's Campaign of 1815."

The California Commandery of the Loyal Legion, in an obituary notice of the late Gen. Eli H. Murray, says: "Companion Murray was a man of magnificent physique and very handsome features, a cultured, high-bred gentleman, a finished speaker and a most genial and lovable companion. His record in war was most gallant, and it was remarkable in that he was one of the youngest regimental, brigade and division commanders in history; born and brought up in a section where secession was the prevailing sentiment and where merely to be a Union man imperiled one's life, he never once hesitated in his love for the Old Flag and his determination to uphold it; and he was respected the more, for even his enemies were his friends." Of the late Capt. John S. Wharton, U. S. A., this Commandery says: "When our companion entered the service of his country he was a strong athletic boy not yet sixteen years old, of fine figure and very handsome features, full of soldierly ardor and ambitious of military advancement; in his first battle he received a wound which disabled him from field service and caused him to be a broken down man and practically and invalid for the rest of his life. Though he lived for nearly twenty-five years, yet he was as surely 'killed in service' as if this wound he received on the 30th day of August, 1862, had been a mortal one."

Lieut. J. C. Fox, 13th Inf., is enjoying a visit to relatives at Germantown, Pa.

Gen. J. Kemp Mizner, U. S. A., registered at The Savoy, New York, on Dec. 30.

Gen. C. G. Sawtelle, Q. M. G., was in Philadelphia this week, visiting old friends there.

Col. A. T. Smith, 13th Inf., rejoined at Fort Niagara, N. Y., January 4, from a short leave.

Mrs. Frances E. Russell, stepmother of Surg. A. C. H. Russell, U. S. N., died Dec. 22, at Fort Valery, Ga.

Mrs. Campbell, wife of Maj. L. E. Campbell, U. S. A., retired, has been visiting in Philadelphia, being a guest at the Stratford Hotel.

Maj. Charles C. Hood, U. S. A., and family have left Fort Logan, and will spend a part of the winter at 1576 Lincoln avenue, Denver, Colo.

Gen. J. K. Mizner, U. S. A., and Mrs. Mizner, sailed for the Mediterranean Jan. 5, on the steamship Columbia, of the Hamburg-American line.

Announcement is made of the engagement of Ensign Jay Hale Sypher, U. S. N., to Miss Anna H. Cromwell, daughter of Capt. B. J. Cromwell, U. S. N.

Miss Helen Wadsworth Walton, daughter of the late Walter Walton, formerly Acting Ensign, U. S. Navy, was married Dec. 30 at Middletown, N. Y., to Mr. Murray Kay.

Dr. Franklin Bache Stephenson, U. S. N., is the author of a paper, "Modern Greek as the Universal Language," published in the "Allegheny Literary Monthly" (Meadville, Pa.), for December, 1896.

Col. and Mrs. M. I. Ludington have taken apartments at the Auditorium Annex, Chicago, but will leave shortly for New York City, to the great regret of their many friends in Chicago, where they are very popular.

Capt. S. W. Fountain, 8th Cav., is in Philadelphia on leave of absence visiting with his wife and daughter, Mrs. Fountain's home, in the Quaker City. He will take a trip to Florida before returning to Fort Meade.

Among candidates to be balloted for for membership in the Kansas Commandery of the Loyal Legion at a meeting to be held Jan. 7, at Leavenworth, are Maj. A. R. Chaffee, 9th U. S. Cav.; Maj. Henry McElderry, Surg. U. S. A., and Lieut. J. T. Dickman, 3d U. S. Cav.

Gen. Chas. G. Bartlett, U. S. A., of Hart Park, West New Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y., was married Jan. 4, at Long Branch, N. J., to Mrs. Rachael L. Buckbee. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the bride's sister.

Capt. Hugh L. Scott, 7th Cav., will, it is stated, remain for some time to come in charge of the Apache Indian prisoners at Fort Sill. When in Washington recently he reported the Indians as being well behaved, and so long as liquor was kept from them there would be no trouble.

Gen. Frank Wheaton, U. S. A., and Mrs. Wheaton, while in Washington recently, were tendered a dinner by Gen. and Mrs. Manderson. Covers were laid for Gen. and Mrs. Wheaton, Gen. and Mrs. Dandy, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Yates, Mrs. Savage, Col. and Mrs. Schwan, Gen. Coppinger, Gen. and Mrs. Manderson.

Miss Louise Eugenie Bonaparte, daughter of the late Col. Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, was married Dec. 29, at Washington, D. C., to Count Adam de Moltke-Huitfeldt, of Denmark. The bride's late father, it may be recalled, was graduated from West Point in 1852, appointed to the Mounted Rifles and resigned Aug. 18, 1854.

The approaching retirement of Maj. Gen. Ruger, in April, followed by that of Brig. Gen. Wheaton, in May, is giving rise to the usual speculations as to changes in Department Commands. It seems to be pretty certain, however, that Maj. Gen. Merritt will come to New York to command the Department of the East, but the other contingent changes cannot now be definitely stated.

Dr. A. L. Buffington, who died suddenly of apoplexy on Dec. 27, in Rio Grande, Tex., was for over twenty-five years a contract surgeon in the Army, well known and liked by many of the officers who served on the lower Rio Grande, to whom the news of his death will be a sorrow. Mrs. Buffington has gone to the home of her mother, 1803 North Thirteenth street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Capt. Kneeder, Asst. Surg., U. S. A., stationed at San Diego, Cal., was in Philadelphia this week, of which city he is a resident. He is now in Washington, where he brought the remains of the late Capt. Lemon, who died at the Hotel Coronado, near San Diego, notice of which was mentioned in the Journal of last week. Capt. Lemon left a large estate and in settling up its affairs the attorneys found Capt. Kneeder's presence very necessary.

The Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Minnesota gave a banquet Dec. 19, in commemoration of the 221st anniversary of the Great Swamp Fight, Dec. 19, 1675, which was the decisive battle of King Philip's war. Among the members we note Capt. Philip Reade and F. W. Roe, 3d U. S. Inf.; Maj. C. H. Whipple, Paym.; Maj. C. B. Sears, C. E.; Lieut. A. G. Quay, A. D. C. to Gen. Brooke; Maj. W. F. Tucker, Paym.; and Capt. E. C. Bowen, U. S. A., retired. Capt. Reade has written an interesting sketch of the occasion.

The marriage of Lieut. John F. Preston, Jr., 16th U. S. Inf., and Miss Meta Campbell Graham, daughter of Comdr. J. D. Graham, U. S. N., which took place at Fort Sherman, Idaho, Dec. 23, was a very pleasant affair, and a typical military wedding. The married couple are now at Fort Spokane, the groom's station. The bride is the granddaughter of the late Col. James Duncan Graham, C. E., U. S. A., and a grand-niece of the late Maj. Gen. George G. Meade. On account of the unavoidable absence of the bride's father, she was given away by her brother-in-law, Lieut. C. P. George, Adj. 16th Inf.

Fort Leavenworth recent items from the "Times" are: Lieuts. Kennon, 6th Inf., and Macomb, 4th Art., are the guests of Lieut. Hill, 20th Inf. These three officers are enjoying a reunion, having been associated together in the survey for the inter-continental railway commission in Central America. Lieuts. Frederick and Green, 7th Inf., and Lieut. Kennon, 6th Inf., are to report Monday to Lieut. Col. Haskell, president of the examining board for examination for promotion. Lieuts. Myer, 2d Cav., and Mallory, 2d Inf., who were to report Monday for examination, will not report until the first of February. Capt. Wells, 8th Inf., whose examination was delayed the early part of this month on account of the death of his wife, is quite ill himself at Fort Russell. Lieut. W. S. Scott, Adj. 1st Cav., was a caller yesterday. His many friends were pleased to meet him. Lieut. Weber, retired, was at the post recently with Attorney Van Tuyle interviewing persons for the purpose of gathering up evidence in the divorce suit. Mrs. LaTourette, her daughter, Mrs. Collins, and Mrs. Romeyn, wife of Capt. H. B. Romeyn, 5th Inf., are the guests of Mrs. Stotsenberg. Mrs. LaTourette is the widow of the late post chaplain bearing that name and the mother of the three other ladies named.

Capt. Thomas A. Cruse, A. Q. M. U. S. A., is in Washington.

Lieut. Edward M. Gheen, U. S. N., has been in Washington this week under orders to the Hydrographic Office.

Surg. W. S. Dixon, U. S. N., of the Brooklyn, is at 1421 Twenty-ninth street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on leave.

Lieut. Col. J. B. Potter, U. S. A., retired, has taken up his residence for the winter at 816 Fifteenth street, N. W., Washington.

Capt. B. K. Roberts, 5th Art., rejoined early in the week at Fort Hamilton, N. Y., from a fortnight's visit to relatives at Detroit.

2d Lieut. M. L. Walker, U. S. A., of the Corps of Engineers, was in Washington this week en route to his post of duty at Seattle, Wash.

Lieut. Col. J. P. Farley, U. S. A., of the Ordnance Department, stationed at Frankford Arsenal, Pa., is at the Hamilton, Washington, D. C., on leave.

Capt. James Parker, 4th Cav., U. S. A., is at 1821 Jefferson Place, and Capt. Frank Taylor, 14th Inf., U. S. A., is at the National Hotel, Washington.

Capt. Mason Carter and Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, 5th Inf., paid a pleasant visit to Key West this week, and were hospitably entertained at the Barracks.

Ensign Henry A. Wiley, U. S. N., of the Coast Survey, is in Washington, and Chief Engr. J. A. B. Smith, U. S. N., has been in Washington for several days.

Brig. Gen. Frank Wheaton, U. S. A., commanding the Department of the Colorado, who is making a protracted visit in the East, is at 2029 Hillier Place, Washington.

Col. J. P. Canby, Asst. Paym. Gen., U. S. A., whose long and excellent service we referred to last week, was duly retired for age January 7. He is still in Denver.

Lieut. F. Wooley, 10th U. S. Inf., who has been on leave for several months past at 131 East 34th street, New York City, left the service by resignation on New Year's Day.

Ensign A. Althouse, U. S. N., stationed at Munhall, Pa., is visiting Ensign B. B. Bierer, U. S. N., of the Bureau of Navigation, at 1406 Chapin street, Washington.

The anniversary of Gen. Washington's wedding day, Jan. 6, was celebrated by the New York City Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, in accordance with its yearly custom, by a reception from 4 to 6 p. m.

Comdr. A. J. Iverson, lately on duty at the Navy Yard, Boston, has been placed on the retired list on account of age. He was in the volunteer naval service during the war, and entered the regular establishment in 1864.

Maj. C. C. Sniffen, Paym. U. S. A., and family, arrived in Denver this week, and are getting settled down to their new surroundings. Maj. Sniffen has entered upon duty as Chief Paymaster, Department of the Colorado.

Gen. Horace Porter, Grand Marshal of the Inaugural Parade of March 4, 1897, has announced the following staff: A. Noel Blakeman, Chief of Staff; Col. H. C. Corbin, U. S. A., Adjutant General; Capt. John A. Johnston, U. S. A., Chief of Aides; Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, Chief Marshal of the First Grand Division, and Brainerd H. Warner, Chief Marshal of the Second Grand Division. Headquarters have been established at 1419 F street, Washington, D. C.

The "St. Paul Dispatch," referring to certain society young ladies in that city who are ever foremost in charitable works, says: "Miss Anita Furness is indeed a worthy descendant of her distinguished grandfather, Alexander Ramsey—the honored citizen of St. Paul, the namesake of Ramsey County, and the war Governor of Minnesota (also Secretary of War). Miss Jones is the daughter of Col. William Jones, Chief Engineer Officer of the Department of Dakota, and for several years past stationed at St. Paul. Miss Jones is a dainty bit of femininity, exquisite in dress, reserved in manner, a talented pianist and an accomplished linguist."

A Washington correspondent referring to the President's reception on New Year's Day, writes: "Maj. Gen. Miles, attired in full uniform, a broad golden scarf across his breast, indicating that he was the Commanding General of the military forces, led the large contingent of Army officers. Adj. Gen. Ruggles and the various Brigadier Generals who preside over the bureaus of the War Department were immediately in his rear. Gen. Wheaton, commanding the military department of the Platte, took advantage of his presence in Washington to attend. A brilliant picture was presented by the showy uniforms of these and the other officers of the Army who were there—staff officers on duty at the War Department, officers of the regiments stationed about Washington, nearly all fine looking men, who passed along amid a continual jangling of scabbards and jingling of spurs. Rear Adm. Ramsay, Rear Adm. Walker, Commo. Matthews, Sampson, Hichborn, Melville, and a number of other well-known officers composed the naval contingent. Col. Heywood, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, led those under him, and after them came Gen. Ordway and the general staff of the militia of the District of Columbia."

The lyceum season at Fort Myer, Va., includes essays by Maj. Thomas C. Lebo, 6th Cav., "The New Cavalry Drill Regulation;" Capt. F. West, 6th Cav., "Army Maneuvers;" Capt. A. P. Blockson, 6th Cav., "Hannibal and Napoleon;" Capt. B. H. Cheever, 6th Cav., "The Old or Imperial Guard of Napoleon;" Capt. H. M. Kendall, 6th Cav., "The Development of Cavalry;" Capt. H. P. Kingsbury, 6th Cav., "A Review of Professor Sloane's Napoleon Bonaparte;" Capt. L. A. Craig, 6th Cav., "Uniform and Equipment of Cavalry;" Lieut. H. J. Gallagher, 6th Cav., "The Cuban Revolution;" Lieut. J. A. Herman, 6th Cav., "The Armament and Equipment of the Insurgent Army, Cuba;" Lieut. T. Cruse, 6th Cav., "Army Transportation—As Used in the Army of the United States, Past and Present;" Lieut. E. C. Brooks, 6th Cav., "Athletic Sports;" Lieut. E. F. Willcox, 6th Cav., "The Lyceum and Examination of Officers for Promotion;" Lieut. H. H. Stout, 6th Cav., "Gymnasium Used for Enlisted Men;" Lieut. A. C. Nissen, 6th Cav., "Thomas and the Cavalry at Nashville;" Lieut. C. D. Rhodes, 6th Cav., "The Matabele War;" Lieut. H. A. White, 6th Cav., "Polo at an Eastern Army Post;" Lieut. B. B. Hyer, 6th Cav., "The War with Tripoli;" Lieut. A. G. Lott, 6th Cav., "Athletics in the Army;" Lieut. G. T. Summerlin, 6th Cav., "The Battle of Friedland."

The Kansas City "Times" has an article in a recent number designed to show that the present assignment of Army Paymasters is unbusiness-like. There are causes for this, says the writer, and the principal one, it is claimed, is due to the present location of Paymasters, who, instead of being stationed at central points and within easy access of large bodies of troops, are, as a rule, bunched together at the point where the Commanding General of a department has his headquarters. Still the present system, economical and, as a rule, prompt, seems to be generally satisfactory.

FORT SPOKANE, WASH.

December 25, 1896.

Christmas Day in this post was marked by the good dinners in the company messes that serve to make this day memorable all through the Army. The company boards were made to groan beneath the weight of good and seasonable things piled upon them, and it is needless to say that the soldier never is so happy and contented as when he sits himself down before a substantial meal. In the evening the men enjoyed themselves at an informal hop in the post hall.

Capt. W. C. McFarland returned from Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 17.

Lieut. John F. Preston, Jr., is spending a twenty days' leave at Fort Sherman, Idaho, the guest of Adj. C. P. George and wife.

Post Chaplain Walter Marvine returned from hunting leave Dec. 18.

The children of the post and vicinity were given a Christmas tree and entertainment on Christmas eve in the post chapel. A programme of songs and recitations was presented before the gifts were distributed to the little ones. There are some sixty-five children hereabout, and every one was remembered. It was a joyous occasion to the children. The affair was conceived and carried through by the Good Templars lodge of this post, the funds being secured by subscription in the garrison.

Sergt. James W. Davis, Co. B, was discharged on the 20th and re-enlisted on the 21st inst. 1st Sergt. Farringly, Co. C, 16th Inf., was here from Fort Sherman during the holidays, the guest of Sergt. Elzy French and wife.

It has not been possible to cut any ice as yet, owing to the mild weather, and it is extremely problematical whether a supply will be secured this winter at all.

FORT SHERMAN, IDAHO.

December 28, 1896.

The subjects assigned to the line officers at this post for written reports, together with the dates on which they are to be read before the lyceum, have been approved by the Department Commander, Gen. Otis. They are as follows: 2d Lieut. Charles W. Castle, "The Terrain," March 2, 1897; 2d Lieut. Guy G. Palmer, "Athletics in the Army," March 4, 1897; 2d Lieut. Isaac Erwin, "Vicksburg Campaign," March 4, 1897; 2d Lieut. J. E. Woodward, "An Outline of the Battle Formation of Four Different Armies," March 9, 1897; 2d Lieut. L. S. Sorley, "Cuba and Her Struggle for Independence," 1st Lieut. Charles P. George, "Nicaragua Canal," March 11, 1897; 1st Lieut. W. K. Wright, "A Battle," March 11, 1897; 1st Lieut. John Newton, "Field Regulations," March 16, 1897; Capt. L. C. Allen, "Military Law," March 16, 1897; Capt. T. C. Woodbury, "Reconnaissance," March 18, 1897; Capt. S. R. Whitall, "A Sketch of the Life and Campaigns of Oliver Cromwell," March 18, 1897; Capt. T. W. Morrison, "Military Education and Training," March 23, 1897; Capt. W. V. Richards, "International Law; Its Origin, Progress and Tendency." Fort Sherman has had a real romance within the past week and it includes a Coeur d'Alene bride. Miss Gertie Farr, a very pretty girl, was married to Percy Allen, a handsome young trumpeter in Co. C, 16th Inf., on Dec. 21, and their honeymoon was gliding along peacefully, with the best wishes of every one in this community, when, Saturday, the 26th, there came a rude ending of love's young dream. At noon the Post Commander received a telegram from Department Headquarters stating that Pvt. Percy Allen, of Co. C, 16th Inf., whose right name is Percy V. Heath, is wanted in Illinois for breaking his parole from the Pontiac Reform School, to which institution he had been committed for twenty years, but had served only three, and ordered him placed in confinement to await further investigation. Heath, who is barely 21 years of age, has been in the 16th Infantry twelve months, having enlisted in Chicago in December, 1895. When he enlisted a friend of his named Allen, a base ball player, enlisted also, but before being sworn in they exchanged names and together journeyed to Salt Lake, Heath as Allen and Allen as Heath. The ball twirler was discharged without honor for drunkenness and several other things about the time the 16th left Fort Douglas, and soon getting short of funds he applied to Allen for assistance. He is said to have received several donations from Allen, one or two since the troops arrived here. He, nevertheless, wanted more, and expressed an unwillingness to wait until the troops should be paid in January and threatened to give away Allen's secret, which had been confided to him in the early days of their friendship. Heath arrived in Coeur d'Alene the day before the wedding of Allen and Miss Farr and being refused assistance, he sent a telegram to the Department Commander at Vancouver Barracks, informing him of Allen's fraudulent enlistment. Owing to the young man's excellent character and bearing since enlisting the service and the fact that he has just been married to a respectable young lady, an effort is being made to have him released and returned to duty under his true name. His young wife is prostrated with grief.

FORT BAYARD, NEW MEXICO.

December 28, 1896.

The winter climate of New Mexico is so delightful that to remain within doors is almost an impossibility. Riding, driving and tennis fill in the long warm days of this land of perpetual sunshine, and the cool evenings that follow them are enlivened at this military post by various amusements of both a formal and informal character. The ladies of the garrison gave a delightful leap year hop, followed by a german on the evening of Dec. 4. The cotillon was very ably led by Lieut. French, and although the favors were very simple, they were very appropriate to the occasion. On the evening of Dec. 16 the garrison card club met at the quarters of Capt. Cornish. The hosts of the evening were Capt. Corke, Lieut. Smiley and Lieut. Hartman. Capt. Cornish, as honorary member for the evening, most cordially welcomed the members of the club to his cosy bachelor quarters. At the conclusion of the games a most delicious supper was served, the young hosts having quite surpassed all others in their extensive preparations. The prizes of the evening were won by Lieut. and Mrs. French. The lady's prize being an exquisite piece of Mexican silver filigree work.

Christmas day was as warm and pleasant as a May day North, and the enlisted men entered with great spirit into the various out-door sports arranged for their amusement. The games for the day were followed by an exciting contest between the base ball teams of the Cavalry and Infantry, the latter winning.

FORT MEADE, S. D.

December 27, 1896.

A highly select class entertainment was presented at the post hall last Tuesday by the "Olympian Minstrels," an organization which, notwithstanding its suspiciously professional cognomen, is composed entirely of regimental talent. Corp. Adolphus, of Troop B, as business manager, engineered the enterprise, while Trumpeter Denis, of Troop B, looked after the stage and properties.

The programme included songs of every style and variety, club-swinging, dancing, character sketches, and jokes and puns galore. The mandolin, banjo, and guitar duets of Pvs. Holcomb, of Troop B, and Rush, of I, were particularly one of the well rendered events.

A large audience turned out and by its "frequent and tumultuous applause" approved the whole thing, including a very few blunders and antediluvian jokes. As a whole, the entertainment was a delightful success, and thoroughly upheld the dramatic credit of the regiment.

A Christmas tree was given by the ladies of the regiment Thursday evening for the benefit of the enlisted men's children.

A riding party consisting of Misses Kate Ellis, Jean McGregor, May Godwin, Mollie Wells, Mrs. Dr. Stiles and Messrs. Spencer Wells, Alex Ellis, and Lieut. Chitty, made a visit to Deadwood Canon and vicinity last Tuesday.

The card club held its weekly session with Mrs. Stiles last Monday. Capt. and Mrs. Ellis were the guests of the club for the evening. First prizes were won by Mrs. Sweeney and Dr. Crampton.

Lieut. and Mrs. Walcutt returned to the post last Wednesday after a month's visit in the East.

Lieut. and Mrs. Swezey are spending the holidays at Niobrara.

FORT SHERIDAN, ILLINOIS.

Fort Sheridan, Ill., Jan. 3, 1897.

Mr. M. F. Smith, 20th Inf., was a visitor at the post last week.

Mrs. Grimes entertained with a dinner Sunday night Lieut. and Mrs. Conklin, Miss Sawyer, Lieuts. Ostheim, Knowlton and Farr.

Miss Carpenter, daughter of Maj. Carpenter, spent the holidays in Toledo, Ohio.

The Highland Park Club, gave a large reception for the officers and ladies of the post Thursday night. After supper the german was danced and was led by Lieut. Brooks and Miss Sawyer.

Lieut. Brooks gave a theater party for the young ladies of the post into Chicago, to see Julia Marlowe, Monday night.

Mrs. Conklin entertained at dinner Wednesday night Misses Sawyer, Grimes, Lieuts. Farr, Ostheim, Lowe and Caster.

Miss Hartsuff, daughter of Lieut. Col. Hartsuff, gave a large tea in Chicago last week. The guests from the post were Miss Sawyer and Lieut. Knowlton.

The regular weekly hop took place Tuesday night. The young ladies will give a leap year party the first of the week.

FORT BLISS, TEXAS.

December 31, 1896.

On Christmas eve the tree left by good old Santa Claus for the little people of the post was very pretty and greatly enjoyed by them. By 6:30 all the children had gathered at the post hall and were ushered into the hop room, where the tree was. They had barely time to give vent to their exclamations of delight when bells were heard approaching announcing the arrival of Santa Claus, and at that moment the band, which was stationed in one corner of the large room struck up a lively march and to its merry strains St. Nicholas bounded into the room with his pack on his back and his furry robes covered with huge flakes of snow (from Louisiana). His advent was hailed with shrieks of delight from most of the small children who crowded round him and were all anxious to have him shake hands. As St. Nick asked each one if he or she had been good during the year the answers were most amusing as the little ones while telling the truth still tried to excuse themselves. One little girl was heard to say: "I've been good, Santa Claus. I only cried when I was hurted." Another was heard to remark to his mother, "You can't fool me; that's Capt. Augur; I looked under his mask." After giving each child some pretty gift St. Nick bade them all a Merry Christmas and slipped away. Christmas Day Capt. and Mrs. Hinton entertained Col. and Mrs. Van Valzah and Mrs. Ward at a dinner. The band returned this week from a hunting trip to the Waco Mountains. They found very good hunting and brought home considerable game. Christmas morning Lieut. and Mrs. McClure gave an egg-nog party to the young people of the post. The hop this week was very largely attended by the people of El Paso. They all seemed to be imbued with the holiday cheer and a royal good time was had by all. At midnight supper was served and afterwards dancing was resumed. A number of the officers and ladies had as their guests for the occasion several visitors from town. Lieut. and Mrs. Winans, 5th Cav., gave a large reception next week to meet Mrs. Ogden, sister of Mrs. Winans. The marriage of Lieut. William Corcoran, 7th Cav., with Miss Lillie Hague, of El Paso, is announced to occur at the Catholic Cathedral in El Paso on Jan. 14. Miss Hague will have a number of bridesmaids and the event will be quite an elaborate affair socially. For several days past fears of another attack on the custom house at Nogales, Sonora, by the Yaquis have been growing stronger. Previous to the attack made last summer the authorities were warned by an old Mexican woman, but no credence was placed in her assertion, and now she again gives them warning and a close watch on the movements of the Yaquis seem to corroborate her story. Accordingly communications were forwarded to the Commanding Officer at Fort Huachuca with the result that Capt. Davis, in command of Co. A, 15th Inf., was at once ordered to Nogales to protect American lives and property in case the contemplated attack is put into execution. The boundary line between the United States and Mexico runs directly through the one street of Nogales. Capt. Davis with his company is camped close beside the town and are constantly on the alert in case of trouble.

A British writer on the subject of rank and titles in the Medical Department of the Army says: "I have already pointed out how rampant is the spirit of militarism in the department. Like some fabled monster it lives upon itself. Were this title worship a harmless social ambition it might be left to smoulder and to die; but this is not so. It exercises a pernicious influence on its everyday work, and, like some corroding canker, it is eating into the vitals of the department."

WEST POINT.

The attendance at the cadet hop on New Year's eve was comparatively small, due doubtless to the impending examination, many of the cadets dreading the ordeal and anxious to improve all spare moments. Mrs. Parker and Cadet McCoy received the guests, among whom were the Misses Shipman, Weed, Rollinson, Kimberly, Randolph, Mason, Emmons, Poor, Waite, McCreery, Woodruff, Townes, Harrison, Wright, Butler, Dwyer, Smith, Howell, Ross, Burlinson Haling, Bleakley, Spurgin, Braden, Weiting, Ernst, Michie, Torney, Davis, Craney, Ballard, Lannon and many others. A number of the officers and ladies of the garrison spent New Year's eve at the residence of Hon. John Bigelow, "The Squirrels," Highland Falls. The custom of receiving calls on New Year's day has been abandoned. Mrs. and Miss Michie entertained a number of cadet friends, and the young ladies of the post at tea in the afternoon. Invitations were issued to the entire second class and other friends among the cadets. Among the guests present were the following young ladies, assisting Miss Michie: The Misses Davis, the Misses Woodruff, the Misses Craney, Miss Mason, Miss Randolph, Miss Shipman, Miss Weed, Miss Rollinson, Miss Emmons, Miss Kimberly, Miss Torney and Miss Florence Braden. Mrs. Gordon served cafe frappee. Mrs. Bruff poured tea. Among the cadet guests were: Cadets McCoy, Dorey, Pope, Alcantara, Sarratt, Connor, Raymond, Hall, Buckley, Fissell, Harper and Cloke, of the first; Cadets Davis, R. C., Bricker, Hancock, Benchley, Stone, Crallé, Craig, Boggs, Williams, Babcock, Munton, Jordan, Johnson, Newbold, Nugent, Exton, Miller, H. W., Merrill, Brown, L., first; Hammond, Reedy and Humphrey, C. B., of the second; Cadets Trott, Jewell, Romeyn, Pillow, Woodruff, Heintzelman, Halstead, Humphrey, E. H., Marshall, Brown, L., second; Cadet Patten, of the third, and Cadets Lee, Benjamin, Tidball and Godfrey, of the fourth class. Examinations were begun on Saturday morning, Jan. 2. In the evening a cadet concert was held in the gymnasium. Col. and Mrs. Ernst have issued invitations for Wednesday evening, Jan. 6, at 9 o'clock. It is hoped that the examinations will have been concluded by Saturday, and that a cadet hop can be held on Saturday evening. Miss Weed has been visiting Miss Shipman. Miss Rollinson has been a guest of Mrs. Parker. The Misses Woodruff have been guests of Mrs. Mason. The Misses Emmons have been guests of the Misses Ernst, Lieut. Frank S. Cocheu, 12th Inf., was at the post last week. Miss Newland, of West Point, is a guest of her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Newland, at Chevy Chase, near Washington. Lieut. D. M. King, 4th Art., whose marriage will take place this week, left West Point yesterday. Upon their return Lieut. and Mrs. King will occupy the quarters No. 29, last occupied by Lieut. Holbrook. The cadets are much interested in the prospect of their trip to Washington to attend the inaugural ceremonies.

THE AUTOMATIC SYSTEM OF ARMS.

Mr. Hiram Maxim in a recent lecture before the R. U. S. Institute, London, on the "History and Development of the Automatic System of Arms," said:

"It may be asked, whether I have patents in the United States or not? I certainly have, having taken out about fifty, which cover every system which is likely to go into use. The patents are so complete that, so far, no one has ever introduced a single feature which is not fully shown and set forth in my master patents. In the United States it cannot be a question as to whether the thing is patented or not, as I was the first man in the field. No one had ever made an automatic gun before; the coast was clear. Consequently, I was able to take out any number of master patents to show every conceivable way of working an automatic arm, and to get very broad claims. If the American Government do not respect these claims it is no fault of mine or of the able patent solicitors who assisted me in taking my numerous patents. However, I think this might be considered a test case. Nothing can be clearer than my right and my patents. If the United States officials themselves do not respect their own patents when the article patented is absolutely new and fully covered and broadly claimed, I think it ought to prove that it is absolutely useless and a waste of money to take out patents on military appliances in the United States. But perhaps I should not complain, as the officials of all other governments have so far respected the validity of my patents. Even in Russia, where there are no patents, my rights are thoroughly respected. So far I have received no more consideration from the United States Government than the Colt Company, notwithstanding that I hold the master patents. However, it may be possible that when the Colt modification becomes sufficiently 'Maximized' to make it work so that it will be accepted by the Government, the United States Navy Department may ask the Colt Company to put themselves in communication with the owners of the patents in order to have a legal right to make guns on the automatic system in America the same as has been done in other countries."

THE NEW METHYDRIC SPHERE.

An Italian inventor named Corsetto, says "La France Militaire," has constructed an apparatus which he calls a "methydric sphere," and by means of which he professes to be able to descend to any depth in the sea. In his experiment at Spezia he stored some two thousand cubic feet of compressed air in his apparatus, which he entered with two friends, and which was then lowered to a depth of some thirty feet. As after the expiration of nine hours the "sphere" had not yet been seen to reascend to the surface, a message was sent to the Admiral in command of the Naval Department, who at once sent a diver to the spot. The "sphere" was found still resting on the sea bottom, but the diver heard nothing in answer to his knocks. Some barges having been brought to the spot by a tug, the "sphere" was hauled up with ropes, and as soon as it emerged its door was opened and the inventor appeared with a livid face and half asphyxiated. His two companions were unconscious, but were quickly resuscitated. They had remained eighteen hours under water. The inventor explains that so far all his experiments were successful, but on this occasion when he intended to return to the surface the air pressure at his command proved insufficient to expel the water ballast, of about two tons weight, which had so far kept his appliance submerged, and hence they had to remain where they were until rescued. At any rate, three persons were enabled to remain under water for eighteen hours, and this experiment may not be without significance as regards the much discussed problem of submarine navigation.—"Scientific American."

THE ARMY.

DANIEL S. LAMONT, Sec'y of War. J. B. DOE, Asst. Sec'y.

CIRCULAR 9 DEC. 30, 1896, D. EAST.

The Quartermaster General of the Army, in a letter of December 18, 1896, says, relative to the frequency of special requisitions:

"It is suggested that, in the interest of economy, as well as prompt shipment, the rendition of Special Requisitions from posts be, as far as practicable, avoided in the future."

This suggestion will be observed, so far as practicable, by all concerned in this Department.

By command of Maj. Gen. Rucker.

H. C. CORBIN, A. A. G.

G. O. 53, DEC. 29, 1896, H. Q. A., A. G. O.

The attention of Commanding Generals of Departments, and of regimental and post commanders is invited to the importance of the practical instruction of their commands in minor tactics, covering the frequency of the three arms; security and information; reconnoitering; warfare with Indians; convoys; attack and defense for each arm; and, where there is opportunity, of two and three arms combined; night operations; and advance, rear and flank guards. Hereafter at least forty days in each calendar year for every command will be devoted to practical exercises in minor tactics covering problems adapted to one or more arms of the service and to the station and surrounding country, including coast defense at appropriate stations, prepared by Commanding Generals of Departments, and regimental and post commanders. Full reports of the actual solution of these problems in the field on the ground will be made to Commanding Generals of Departments, for practice in making such reports and for advice and criticism, in order that the best results in all directions in the instruction of the troops may be obtained as a preparation for active service. This is not to take the place of any existing requirements for instruction, but to be in addition to calisthenics, athletic and gymnastic exercises, practice in swimming where opportunity is available, target practice, use of machine guns, signal service, construction of hasty entrenchments, marching and camping and work connected therewith, exercises covering the full requirements of the drill regulations of the arm, instruction for heavy artillery, practice in supplying ammunition for battle to firing lines and batteries, study of Army Regulations, Lyceum work and other matters more specifically mentioned in existing orders and regulations. Commanding Generals of Departments will give such further instructions as may be necessary to carry out this order.

By command of Maj. Gen. Miles:

GEO. D. RUGGLES, A. G.

G. O. 11, DEC. 10, 1896, DEPT. COLUMBIA.

Publishes tables which exhibit the classification of troops, companies, posts and regiments in small-arms firing in this department for the target year 1896.

H. Q. A., G. O. JAN. 4, 1897.

Appointments, promotions, casualties, etc., of commissioned officers recorded in the A. G. O. during the week ending Saturday, Jan. 2, 1897.

Casualties.

Maj. Allan H. Jackson, Paymr., resigned his commission as Captain, 7th Inf., only, Dec. 22, 1896.

1st Lieut. Frederick Wooley, 10th Inf., resigned Jan. 1, 1897.

GEO. D. RUGGLES, A. G.

CIRCULAR 1 JAN. 7, 1897, H. Q. A., A. G. O.

The following decisions, rulings, etc., have been made, and are published to the Army for the information of all concerned:

1. Claims for Loss of Private Property Under the Act of March 3, 1885.—In the case of applications for reimbursement for loss of private property under the act of March 3, 1885, paragraph 723 of the Regulations, and General Orders, No. 35, Aug. 11, 1896, from this office, all personal property for the loss or destruction of which payment is claimed must be enumerated and described in the proceedings of the Board of Survey, but the finding of the board will recommend payment for only such articles as, in the opinion of the board, were reasonable, useful, necessary, and proper for the claimant to have in the public service in the line of duty.—(Decision Asst. Sec. War, Nov. 20, '96—45,089 A. G. O., '96.)

2. Insignia for Saddlecloths.—The insignia for the flank corners of saddlecloths for officers of the staff corps will be the insignia prescribed for the collar of the officer's undress coat, omitting the letters U. S., with height of 2 1/4 inches.—(Instructions Asst. Sec. War, Dec. 14, '96—46,118 A. G. O., '96.)

By command of Maj. Gen. Miles:

GEO. D. RUGGLES, A. G.

STAFF DEPARTMENTS.

The following changes in Quartermaster's stations have been ordered: Lieut. Col. Amos S. Kimball, from the Department of California to the Department of Texas at San Antonio, relieving Lieut. Col. G. C. Smith, who is ordered to St. Louis, relieving Lieut. Col. Lewis C. Forsyth, who is ordered to settle accounts and remain in St. Louis. Col. James M. Moore, is ordered from New York to San Francisco, and Lieut. Col. James G. Lee from San Francisco to Chicago, relieving Col. Marshall L. Ludington, who assumes charge of the general department at New York.

Hospital Steward William Edwards, now at Fort Meade, South Dakota, is transferred to Jackson Barracks. (H. Q. A., Jan. 6.)

The troops in the Dept. of Colorado will be paid to include the muster of Dec. 31, 1896, as follows: By Col. J. P. Canby, Asst. Paymr. Gen., the clerks and messengers at department headquarters. Maj. E. W. Halford, Paymr., at Forts Logan, Colo.; Douglas and Duchesne, Utah; Apache and Whipple Barracks, Ariz.; Fort Wingate, N. Mex., and troops detached from posts. By Maj. W. H. Hammer, Paymr., at Forts Bayard, N. M.; Grant, San Carlos, Huachuca, and San Bernardino, Ariz., and troops detached from posts. (S. O. 109, D. C., Dec. 23.)

James Gilliss, Deputy Q. M. Gen., is authorized to be absent from his station to comply with a summons to appear on Jan. 12, 1897, as a witness on the part of the U. S. before the U. S. District Court at St. Louis, Mo. (S. O. 4, D. E., Jan. 6.)

The following assignment of paymasters is made for the payments due Dec. 31, 1896, in Dept. Columbia: Lieut. Col. Frank M. Cox, Deputy Paymr. Gen., at Fort Walla Walla, Wash., and Boise Barracks, Idaho; Maj. Charles E. Kilbourne, Paymr., at Vancouver Barracks, Fort Canby and Spokane, Wash., and Fort Sherman, Idaho. (S. O. 214, D. C., Dec. 24.)

Lieut. Col. Frank M. Cox, Deputy Paymr. Gen., will proceed from Portland, Ore., to Vancouver Barracks,

Wash., and return on Jan. 2, 1897, for payment of clerks and messengers. (S. O. 216, D. C., Dec. 28.)

Acting Hospital Steward Francois L. Oltmans, Hospital Corps, now at Fort Robinson, Neb., is transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Tex. (H. Q. A., Dec. 30.)

Capt. Ira MacNutt, O. D., will make not to exceed six visits during the month of January, 1897, from South Bethlehem, Pa., to the works of the Carpenter Steel Company, Reading, Pa., on official business. (H. Q. A., Dec. 30.)

Leave for seven days is granted Capt. B. L. Ten Eyck, Asst. Surg. (Columbus Barracks, Dec. 30.)

The seven days' leave granted Post Chaplain Orville J. Nave is extended seven days. (S. O. 123, D. C., Dec. 30.)

Leave for two days is granted Maj. Valery Havard, Surg. (Fort Slocum, Dec. 31.)

The following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Pay Dept. are ordered: Maj. William H. Comegys, Paymr., from duty in Dept. of the Platte to Governors Island, with station in New York City. Maj. William H. Hammer, Paymr., from duty in Dept. of Colorado to Omaha, Neb., for duty in that department, with station in Omaha. Maj. Allan H. Jackson, Paymr., from duty in the office of the Paymr. Gen., and proceed to Denver, Col., for duty in that department, with station in Albuquerque, N. M. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

The following changes in the stations and duties of officers of the Q. M. Dept. are ordered: Lieut. Col. Amos S. Kimball, Deputy Q. M. G., will be relieved from duty as Chief Q. M. Dept. of California, and will then proceed to San Antonio, Tex., for duty to relieve Lieut. Col. Gilbert C. Smith, Deputy Q. M. G., who will proceed to St. Louis and assume charge of the General Depot of the Q. M. Dept. in that city, and relieve Lieut. Col. Lewis C. Forsyth, Deputy Q. M. G., who will settle his accounts and retain station at St. Louis, Mo. Col. James M. Moore, A. Q. M. Gen., is relieved from duty at the General Depot of the Q. M. Dept. in New York City, and will proceed to San Francisco, Cal., for duty as Chief Q. M. He will transfer his duties and responsibilities in New York City temporarily to Maj. William S. Patten, Q. M., who will assume them in addition to his present duties. Col. Moore, in addition to his duties as Chief Q. M. Dept. of Cal., will assume charge of the General Depot of the Q. M. Dept. at San Francisco, Cal. Lieut. Col. James G. Lee, Deputy Q. M. G., is relieved from duty at the General Depot of the Q. M. Dept. at San Francisco, Cal., and will proceed to Chicago, Ill., for duty as Chief Q. M. of that department to relieve Col. Marshall L. Ludington, A. Q. M. G. He will transfer his duties and responsibilities at San Francisco temporarily to Capt. Oscar F. Long, A. Q. M. Col. Ludington will proceed to New York City and assume charge of the General Depot, Q. M. Dept., in that city. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

The resignation of Maj. Allan H. Jackson, Paymr., of his commission as Captain, 7th Inf., only, has been accepted by the President, to take effect Dec. 22, 1896. (H. Q. A., Jan. 4.)

The leave for seven days granted Capt. B. L. Ten Eyck, Asst. Surg., is extended 14 days. (S. O. 1, D. E., Jan. 2.)

Capt. James C. Ayres, O. D., will make not to exceed four visits to the West Point Foundry, Cold Spring, N. Y., on official business. (H. Q. A., Jan. 5.)

1st Lieut. Charles B. Wheeler, O. D., will proceed to the works of the Robert Poole & Son Company, Baltimore, Md., on official business. (H. Q. A., Jan. 5.)

CAVALRY, ARTILLERY AND INFANTRY.

3d CAVALRY.—COL. ANSON MILLS.

Additional 2d Lieut. Ola W. Bell, 3d Cav., is granted leave of absence for seven days. (Jefferson Barracks, Dec. 29.)

1st Lieut. Arthur Thayer, 3d Cav., is granted leave for seven days. (Jefferson Barracks, Jan. 1.)

A Post Council of Administration to consist of Maj. Joseph B. Girard, Surg.; Maj. Henry W. Wessells, Jr., 3d Cav.; Capt. George F. Chase, 3d Cav., will meet at Jefferson Bks., Dec. 31, to audit the accounts of the post treasurer and to transact other business. (S. O., Jeff. Barracks, Dec. 31.)

An Exchange Council to consist of the commanding officers of Troops B and K, 3d Cav., and the officer in charge of the exchange, will meet at Jefferson Bks., Dec. 31, to transact such business as may be brought before it. (Jefferson Barracks, Dec. 30.)

A sub-committee of non-commissioned officers to consist of Hospital Steward August von Clossman, U. S. A.; Sergt. John Hayes, band, 3d Cav.; Corp. Harry Rowlett, Troop A; Sergt. Frank Maricle, Troop B; Sergt. Frederick P. Krarup, Troop D; Sergt. Bernhardt Distel, Troop H; 1st Sergt. John Ouellette, Troop I; Sergt. Frank Litterst, Troop K, and Sergt. Joseph L. McGree, Troop M, is appointed to meet at the Post Exchange, Jefferson Bks., Dec. 31, to submit orally, or in writing, to the Exchange Council, its views in respect to the immediate internal operations of the exchange and recommend any changes that may be desired by the enlisted men. (Jefferson Barracks, Dec. 30.)

A Mess Council, to consist of the commanding officers of the band, Troops A, B, D, H, I, K and M, 3d Cav., will meet at Jefferson, Dec. 31, to audit the accounts of the officer in charge of the general mess, etc. (Jeff. Barracks, Dec. 30.)

The leave granted 1st Lieut. Arthur Thayer, 3d Cav., is extended 24 days. (S. O. 2, D. M., Jan. 4.)

4th CAVALRY.—COL. CHAS. E. COMPTON.

2d Lieut. Gordon Voorhies, 4th Cav., is relieved from duty as member of the G. C. M., appointed to meet at Fort Walla Walla, Wash., during the trial of Pvt. Maurice D. Carter, Troop D, 4th Cav., to act as his counsel. (S. O. 211, D. P., Dec. 21.)

A board of officers, to consist of Capt. Fred Wheeler, 4th Cav., and 1st Lieut. Charles H. Martin, Q. M., 14th Inf., is appointed to meet at Vancouver Barracks, Wash., to inspect horses for the 4th Cav. (S. O. 211, D. P., Dec. 21.)

6th CAVALRY.—COL. SAMUEL S. SUMNER

Leave of 15 days, to take effect about Jan. 15, is granted Lieut. John P. Ryan, 6th Cav. (S. O. 3, D. E., Jan. 5.)

Sergt. A. J. Longmore, 6th Cav., and guard, will conduct prisoner to Fort Columbus. (Fort Myer, Dec. 30.)

7th CAVALRY.—COL. EDWIN V. SUMNER.

The leave granted Capt. William J. Nicholson, 7th Cav., is extended 23 days. (S. O. 109, D. C., Dec. 23.)

Leave for 15 days is granted Additional 2d Lieut. Edward L. King, 7th Cav., Fort Grant, Ariz. (S. O. 111, D. P., Dec. 28.)

Leave for two months is granted 2d Lieut. Robert Sewell, 7th Cav. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

8th CAVALRY.—COL. CALEB H. CARLTON.

1st Lieut. John C. Waterman, 8th Cav., is detailed as professor of military science and tactics at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, Iowa. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

The leave granted Maj. Almond B. Wells, 8th Cav.,

is further extended five days. (S. O. 121, D. P., Dec. 21.)

9th CAVALRY.—COL. DAVID PERRY.

The leave granted 1st Lieut. John F. McBlain, 9th Cav., is extended three days. (S. O. 121, D. P., Dec. 21.)

Leave for 20 days, to take effect on or about Dec. 26, 1896, is granted Capt. John S. Loud, 9th Cav. (S. O. 121, D. P., Dec. 21.)

The leave granted 1st Lieut. John F. McBlain, 9th Cav., by his post commander, is further extended twenty days. (S. O. 122, D. P., Dec. 24.)

1st ARTILLERY.—COL. ROYAL T. FRANK.

Corp. George Orme, Bat. C, 1st Art., is detailed Exchange Steward. (St. Francis Bks., Dec. 29.)

2d Lieut. F. W. Coe, 1st Art., is appointed Quartermaster and Commissary. (Key West Barracks, Dec. 26.)

1st Sergt. H. Rasmussen, 1st Art., will conduct a prisoner to Fort McPherson. (Fort Barrancas, Jan. 1.)

Pvt. H. Pharlins and W. R. Tyree, 1st Bat. K, 1st Art., have been appointed Corporals.

2d ARTILLERY.—COL. ALEX. C. M. PENNINGTON.

2d Lieut. Edwin Landon, 2d Art., is appointed officer in charge of post school. Fort Schuyler, Dec. 31.)

During the temporary absence of 1st Lieut. W. A. Simpson, 2d Art., 1st Lieut. Lotus Niles is appointed post exchange officer. (Fort Adams, Dec. 31, 1896.)

1st Lieut. I. N. Lewis, 2d Art., is detailed counsel in case before G. C. M. (Fort Wadsworth, Jan. 6.)

4th ARTILLERY.—COL. FRANCIS L. GUENTHER.

Leave for seven days, with permission to apply for an extension of seven days, is granted Capt. R. P. Strong, 4th Art. (Fort McHenry, Jan. 3.)

5th ARTILLERY.—COL. WM. M. GRAHAM.

Corp. B. C. Parson has been promoted Sergt., vice Corp. M. Novak appointed Corp. in Bat. C, 5th Art.

The leave for seven days granted 2d Lieut. William C. Davis, 5th Art., is extended one day. (S. O. 1, D. E., Jan. 2.)

Leave for three days is granted 2d Lieut. E. F. McLaughlin, 5th Art. (Fort Hamilton, Jan. 4.)

1st Lieut. W. F. Hancock, 5th Art., is assigned temporarily to command Battery H. (Fort Hamilton, Jan. 4.)

1st Sergt. S. L. Stanley, E. 5th Art., will conduct a prisoner to Fort Columbus. (Fort Wadsworth, Jan. 7.)

Lance Corp. J. Brown and Pvt. C. P. Montague and W. Smith, 5th Art., have been appointed Corporals.

2d INFANTRY.—COL. JOHN C. BATES.

The leave granted 1st Lieut. Frederick T. Van Liew, 2d Inf., is extended one month. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

3d INFANTRY.—COL. JOHN H. PAGE.

The leave granted 1st Lieut. Francis P. Fremont, 3d Inf., is extended twenty-three days. (S. O. 174, D. D., Dec. 28.)

5th INFANTRY.—COL. WILLIAM L. KELLOGG.

Leave for seven days is granted 2d Lieut. A. Mitchell, 5th Inf. (Fort McPherson, Dec. 30.)

2d Lieut. Edward Sigerfoos, 5th Inf., is temporarily attached to Co. H. (Fort McPherson, Dec. 28.)

6th INFANTRY.—COL. MELVILLE A. COCHRAN.

Leave for seven days, with permission to apply for an extension of 20 days, is granted Capt. F. W. Thibaut, 6th Inf. (Fort Thomas, Jan. 3.)

Lance Corp. W. Beck, C, 6th Inf., has been appointed Corporal.

Lance Corp. W. Beck, C, 6th Inf., has been appointed Corporal.

Maj. C. W. Miner, 6th Inf., will witness payment on rolls for December, 1896. (Fort Thomas, Jan. 4.)

9th INFANTRY.—COL. W. J. LISTER.

2d Lieut. H. F. Rethers, 9th Inf., is relieved from temporary duty with Co. H. (Madison Bks., Jan. 1.)

Corp. F. J. Fischer, G, 9th Inf., is detailed overseer of work remodeling Post Exchange Building. (Madison Barracks, Dec. 31.)

13th INFANTRY.—COL. ALFRED T. SMITH.

Leave for 19 days is granted 2d Lieut. Frederick W. Figer, 13th Inf. (S. O. 305, D. E., Dec. 31.)

Leave for two days is granted 1st Lieut. Munroe McFarland, 13th Inf. (Fort Niagara, Dec. 29.)

The leave granted 1st Lieut. McFarland, 13th Inf., is extended one day. (Fort Niagara, Jan. 1.)

Lance Corp. W. Deopker and Pvt. W. C. Cook, C, 13th Inf., have been appointed Corporals.

Sergt. P. Walsh, K, 13th Inf., is appointed Overseer of Laborers. (Fort Slocum, Dec. 30.)

2d Lieut. L. H. Bash, 13th Inf., is attached to Co. G. (Fort Porter, Jan. 1.)

2d Lieut. William Newman, 13th Inf., is appointed Quartermaster and Commissary; Capt. J. B. Guthrie is appointed Post Treasurer and Exchange Officer; Lieut. W. A. Sater is appointed Signal Officer, and Lieut. L. H. Bash is appointed Instructor of Calisthenics. (Fort Porter, Jan. 1.)

1st Lieut. P. C. Harris, Q. M. 13th Inf., will distribute pay on December muster rolls. (Fort Niagara, Jan. 4.)

Lieut. C. S. Hale, 13th Inf., granted leave till Feb. 15, 1897. Resignation accepted from that date. (H. Q. A., Jan. 7.)

15th INFANTRY.—COL. ROBT. E. A. CROFTON.

The leave granted 2d Lieut. William H. Bertsch, 15th Inf., is extended one month. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

1st Lieut. Charles G. French, 15th Inf., is detailed as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the North Dakota Agricultural College, Fargo, N. D. (H. Q. A., Jan. 4.)

17th INFANTRY.—COL. JOHN S. POLAND.

Lieut. V. K. Hart, 17th Inf., is detailed counsel in case before G. C. M. (Columbus Barracks, Jan. 1.)

Sergt. W. E. Millery, C, 17th Inf., and guard, will proceed to Memphis for a deserter. (Columbus Barracks, Dec. 30.)

During the temporary absence on leave of Capt. C. B. Thompson, A. Q. M., 1st Lieut. R. W. Dowdy, Q. M., 17th Inf., is detailed Q. M. of post. (Columbus Barracks, Dec. 31.)

Corp. J. H. Carson has been promoted Sergeant and Pvt. O. McGirr appointed Corporal in Co. A, 17th Inf.

19th INFANTRY.—COL. SIMON SNYDER.

Leave for two months is granted 2d Lieut. William O. Johnson, 19th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

21st INFANTRY.—COL. HORACE JEWETT.

The leave for seven days granted 2d Lieut. William H. Mullay, 21st Inf., is extended twenty-three days, with permission to apply for a further extension of two months. (S. O. 3, D. E., Jan. 5.)

Pvt. Morris Ahern, Co. A, 21st Inf., was on Jan. 1 appointed Corporal, vice Ryan, reduced.

Leave for seven days is granted 2d Lieut. W. H. Mullay, 21st Inf. (Plattsburg Barracks, Jan. 2.)

22d INFANTRY.—COL. JAMES S. CASEY.

The leave granted Maj. William M. Van Horne, 22d Inf., is extended two months and twenty days. (H. Q. A., Jan. 4.)

Leave for one month, to take effect on or about Jan. 2, 1897, is granted Capt. John G. Ballance, 22d Inf., Fort Crook, Neb. (S. O. 121, D. P., Dec. 21.)

Pvt. Thomas Rafferty, Co. E, 22d Inf., was on Jan. 1 appointed Corporal, vice Martin discharged.

23d INFANTRY.—COL. SAMUEL OVENSHEINE.

Leave for one month, to take effect about Jan. 6, is granted 1st Lieut. Raymond R. Stevens, 23d Inf. (S. O. 161, D. T., Dec. 28.)

25th INFANTRY.—COL. ANDREW S. BURT.

Leave for four months, to take effect on or about Jan. 15, 1897, is granted to 2d Lieut. Samuel Burkhardt, Jr., 25th Inf. (H. Q. A., Dec. 31.)

COURTS MARTIAL.

At Key West Barracks, Fla., Jan. 6. Detail: Capt. Mason Carter, 5th Inf.; Abner H. Merrill, 1st Art.; Jefferson R. Kean, Asst. Surg.; 1st Lieut. Joseph M. T. Partello, 5th Inf.; Gustave W. S. Stevens; 2d Lieut. Clarence H. McNeil, Joseph P. Tracy, 1st Art., and 2d Lieut. Frank W. Coe, 1st Art., Judge Adv. (S. O. 304, D. E., Dec. 30.)

At Madison Barracks, N. Y., Jan. 4, 1897. Detail: Maj. Ezra P. Ewers, 9th Inf.; Capt. Alpheus H. Bowman, 9th Inf.; Morris C. Foote, 9th Inf.; William L. Carpenter, 9th Inf.; John A. Baldwin, 9th Inf.; Thomas S. McCaleb, 9th Inf.; 1st Lieut. George Palmer, 9th Inf.; André W. Brewster, 9th Inf.; John M. Sigworth, 9th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Charles C. Clark, 9th Inf.; Arthur W. Yates, 9th Inf.; Thomas F. Dwyer, 9th Inf.; Additional 2d Lieut. Benjamin M. Hartshorne, Jr., 9th Inf., and 2d Lieut. Thomas W. Darrab, 9th Inf., Judge Adv. (S. O. 303, D. E., Dec. 29.)

Garrison C. M. Fort Hamilton. Detail: Capt. E. R. Hills, Lieut. W. H. Coffin, W. F. Hancock, and G. G. Gately, 5th Art., Judge Adv. (Fort Hamilton Dec. 30.)

At Fort Slocum, N. Y. H., Jan. 12. Detail: Maj. Valery Havard, Surg.; Capt. Luigi Lomia, Oliver E. Wood, 1st Lieut. Garland N. Whistler, 5th Art.; Joseph R. Batchelor, Jr., 24th Inf.; 2d Lieut. Delamere Skerrett, William H. Tschappat, 5th Art.; 2d Lieut. Thomas W. Winston, 5th Art., Judge Adv. (S. O. 5, D. E., Jan. 7.)

A board of officers, to consist of Lieut. Col. James Gilliss, Deputy Q. M. Gen.; Maj. Henry M. Adams, Corps of Engineers; Maj. John D. Hall, Surg., is appointed to meet at Fort Wadsworth, New York, to select a site for the hospital to be erected at that post. (H. Q. A., Jan. 4.)

STATIONS OF THE ARMY.

Note.—The date coming after the headquarters post of each regiment, shows the establishment thereof of the said headquarters. Where the companies of a regiment are at more than one station, there may, of course, have been some interchanges between the companies.

1ST CAVALRY.—Hdqs. F and K, Ft. Riley, Kan. (since October, 1895); B and D, Ft. Reno, O. T.; E and H, Ft. Sill, O. T.; A and I, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.; C and G, Ft. Sheridan, Ill.

2D CAVALRY.—Hdqs. E and K, Ft. Wingate, N. M. (since June, 1890); B and I, Ft. Logan, Colo.; A, C, D, F, G, and H, Ft. Riley, Kan.

3D CAVALRY.—Hdqs. A, B, D, H, I and K, Jefferson Bks., Mo. (since September, 1894); C, E, F and G, Fort Ethan Allen, Vt.

4TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. A, D, G and H, Ft. Walla Walla, Wash.; E, Vancouver Bks., Wash.; F, Boise Bks., Idaho; B, C, I and K, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.

5TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. D, E, F and K, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex. (since June, 1893); C and I, Ft. Clark, Tex.; B, Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; H, Ft. Ringgold, Tex.; G, Ft. Brown, Tex.; A, Ft. Bliss, Tex.

6TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. A, E, G and H, Ft. Myer (since October, 1894); D and I, Ft. Yellowstone, Wyo.; B, C, F and K, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

7TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. B, C, E and F, Ft. Grant, Ariz. (since May, 1895); I, K, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.; A and D, Ft. Bayard, N. M.; G and H, Ft. Apache, Ariz.; L, Ft. Sill, O. T.

8TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. B, D, E, F, G, H, I and K, Ft. Meade, S. D. (since June, 1888); A, Ft. Keogh, M. T.; C, Ft. Yates, N. D.

9TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. A, C, E, G, H and K, Ft. Robinson, Neb. (since June, 1895); B and F, Ft. Du Chesne, Utah; D and I, Ft. Washakie, Wyo.

10TH CAVALRY.—Hdqs. C, D, F, G, H and I, Ft. Assiniboine, Mont. (since April, 1892); A, B, E and K, Ft. Custer, Mont.

1ST ARTILLERY.—Hdqs. C and M, St. Francis Barracks (since October, 1896); A and B, Key West Barracks, Fla.; F and I, Ft. Monroe, Va.; H and L, Ft. Barrancas, Fla.; D and G, Jackson Barracks, E. Washington Barracks, D. C.; K, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.

2D ARTILLERY.—Hdqs. B, D, F and G, Ft. Adams (since May, 1889); C and M, Ft. Warren, Mass.; E, Ft. Preble, Me.; H, Ft. Trumbull, Conn.; I, Ft. Monroe, Va.; K and L, Ft. Schuyler; A, Ft. Sheridan, Ill.

3D ARTILLERY.—Hdqs. D, H and I, Angel Island (since October, 1896); C, Ft. G and K, Presidio of S. F., Cal.; A and L, Alcatraz Island, Cal.; E, Ft. Mason, Cal.; M, Ft. Canby, Wash.; B, Ft. Monroe, Va.

4TH ARTILLERY.—Hdqs. A, G, I and M, Washington Barracks, D. C. (since May, 1892); C, D and L, Ft. McHenry, Md.; B and F, Ft. Riley, Kan.; E, H and K, Ft. Monroe, Va.

5TH ARTILLERY.—Hdqs. A, D, H and I, Ft. Hamilton (since October, 1896); B, C and M, Ft. Slocum, N. Y. H.; E, K and L, Ft. Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; G, Ft. Monroe, Va.; F, Ft. Riley, Kan.

1ST INFANTRY.—Hdqs. A, E, F and G, Presidio of S. F., on Pacific Coast, Cal. (since July, 1886); B, C and D, Benicia Bks., Cal.; H, San Diego Bks., Cal.

2D INFANTRY.—Hdqs. A, E, F and H at Ft. Keogh, Mont. (since July, 1896); B and C, Fort Harrison, Mont.; D and G, Ft. Yates, N. Dak.

3D INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. Snelling, Minn. (since May, 1888).

4TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment at Ft. Sheridan, Ill. (since October, 1896).

5TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. McPherson, Ga. (since September, 1894).

6TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. Thomas, Ky. (since August, 1890).

7TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. Logan, Colo. (since September, 1889).

8TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. D. A. Russell, Wyo. (since October, 1894).

9TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Madison Bks., N. Y. (since October, 1891).

10TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. A, B, F and H, Ft. Reno, O. T. (since September, 1894); C, D, E and G, Ft. Sill, O. T.

11TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. B and C, Whipple Bks. (since October, 1891); E and G, Little Rock, Ark.; A, D, F and H, Ft. Apache, A. T.

12TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. Niobrara, Neb. (since October, 1894).

13TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. C, E and H, Ft. Niagara, N. Y.; B, D and F, Ft. Columbus, N. Y. H.

14TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Vancouver Bks., Wash. (since July, 1884).

15TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. A, D, E and G, Ft. Bayard, New Mexico (since October, 1896); B and F, Ft. Grant, Ariz.; C and H, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.

16TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. C, D, F, G and H, Ft. Sherman, Idaho (since October, 1896); A, Boise Bks., Idaho; B and E, Ft. Spokane, Wash.

17TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Columbus Bks., O. (since October, 1894).

18TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. D and H, Ft. Bliss, Tex. (since October, 1889); A, B, C, E, F and G, Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.

19TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. B, C, D and F, Ft. Wayne Mich. (since May, 1890); A, E, G and H, Ft. Brady, Mich.

20TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. (since October, 1894).

21ST INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment, Plattsburg Bks., N. Y. (since May, 1892).

22D INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment at Ft. Crook, Neb. (since July, 1896).

23D INFANTRY.—Hdqs. B, C, E and F, Ft. Clark, Tex. (since May, 1890); G, Ft. Ringgold, Tex.; A, Ft. McIntosh, Tex.; D, Eagle Pass, Tex.; H, Ft. Brown, Tex.

24TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. and entire regiment at Ft. Douglas, Utah (since October, 1896).

25TH INFANTRY.—Hdqs. B, E, F, G and H, Ft. Missoula, Mont. (since June, 1888); A and D, Ft. Custer, Mont.; C and E, Ft. Assiniboine, Mont.

* Indian troop. † Light batteries.

FORT RILEY, KANSAS.

January 1, 1897.

Lieut. and Mrs. Arnold welcomed their friends around the eggnog bowl on Christmas afternoon. Good cheer and high spirits were in abundance.

Capt. Huggins gave a theatre party on New Year's eve. The guests were conveyed in the wagonette to Junction City, where they were entertained by the operetta "Pinafore."

Capt. and Mrs. Sibley gave an interesting supper party on the same evening, in honor of their guest, Lieut. Estes, of the 20th Infantry. The departure of the old and advent of the new year were celebrated by appropriate instrumental selections rendered by the Fort Riley Symphony Club. Miss Sibley left the following day for Chicago.

Lieut. Michie's appointment as Regimental Adjutant of the 2d Cavalry, and the consequent removal of his family to Fort Wingate robs us of friends at once the most courteous and genial of acquaintances, the most amiable of companions, and the most cordial of hosts. Lieut. Michie's administration of affairs, as secretary and treasurer of the Fort Riley Mess, has won for him unanimous praise and the title to imitation.

Lieut. Chas. G. Sawtelle, 2d Cav., arrived at the post on the afternoon of the 3d.

Capt. Cavanaugh, 13th Inf., and daughter were guests of Capt. Powell for a few days last week.

Lieut. and Mrs. Scott left for Kansas City on the 24th ultimo, the former returning on New Year's eve. Mr. Sturgis left with her mother, Mrs. Bement, for St. Paul on the 3d inst., for a short visit. Her brother, who has also been a guest for some days, returned on the same day to college in Colorado.

Miss Jones, of Omaha, daughter of Maj. Jones, Q. M. Dept., is the guest of Miss Randolph.

The Christmas supper hop was fairly well attended. The decorations, for which the ladies of the post deserve much credit, were disposed with a most handsome and artistic effect.

Interest and enthusiasm always center around some one of the coming social events. From the date of the receipt of the invitations to Capt. and Mrs. Kingsbury's bal masque, it was the object of general and pleasurable anticipation. At 9 o'clock on the evening of Dec. 30, the capacious doors of the post hall were thrown open to the merry world of fun-makers. Envoys from the realms of Princes, and noble dames from the salons of Royalty, representatives of Queen Folly's Court, and Emissaries from the Arch-Fiend himself, jostled with portly monks and pretty maidens, flower vendors and fantastic fools, Arabs of the desert and peasants from smiling France, wending their way to the dais, where with courteous smiles the charming hosts received the respectful salutations of their guests. After a round of fun, frolic and dance, masks were removed and partners selected for the Virginia reel. Then followed a royal banquet, more dancing and reluctant "good-nights." The guests and their "characters" were as follows: Mrs. Rafferty, "Columbia"; Lieut. Furlong, "Tribadour"; Mrs. Furlong, "Cleopatra"; Lieut. Leary, "Pink Domino"; Mrs. Leary, "Quakeress"; Lieut. Harrison, "Uncle Sam"; Mrs. Harrison, "French Cook"; Capt. Reiley, "Pink Domino"; Mrs. Reiley, evening gown and mask; Miss Taylor, man's part, black domino; Lieut. Sturgis, evening suit, mask; Mrs. Sturgis, "Tribby"; Mrs. Keefe, college gown and mortar-board; Maj. Randolph, Red Domino and lace frills around ankles; Miss Randolph, "Baker's Chocolate Girl"; Miss Jones, "Milk Maid"; Lieut. Arnold, "Mephistopheles"; Mrs. Arnold, "Italian Peasant"; Lieut. Foltz, "Arab"; Mrs. Foltz, "Court Costume"; Mrs. Knox, "Dresden Shepherdess"; Miss Knox, "La Tosca"; Mr. Thos. Knox, "Indian Brave"; Mrs. Allen, "Darktown Belle"; Lieut. Trout, "Little Boy Blue"; Mrs. Trout, "Dutch Peasant"; Miss Sibley, "Court Costume"; Lieut. Treat, "Baby," wheeled around in carriage by Mrs. Macdonald, as "Irish Nurse"; Miss Kingsbury, "Chrysanthemum"; Miss Barry, "Folly"; Lieut. Michie and Lieut. Macdonald, "Japanese Giants"; Mrs. McClernand, "Japanese Lady"; Miss Pomp, "Russian Peasant"; Mrs. Michie, "Russian Court Costume"; Capt. Sibley, "Pink Domino"; Mrs. Sibley, "Kate Greenaway"; Lieut. Macomb, "Franciscan Monk"; Lieut. Payne, "Young Girl"; Dr. Stone, "Domino"; Lieut. Dallam, "Pirate."

All of the costumes were cleverly devised and showed careful preparation. Some deserve special mention. None were daintier than the popular "Chrysanthemum," to whom all paid court.

FORT SHERMAN, IDAHO.

Fort Sherman, Dec. 25, 1896.

There was a pretty Christmas wedding in the little post chapel, among the pines, at Fort Sherman, Wednesday evening, Dec. 23. 2d Lieut. John F. Preston, Jr., and Miss Meta Graham, daughter of Comdr. Graham, of the Navy, were married in the rites of the Episcopal Church by Rev. Dr. Skottowe, of St. Luke's Coeur d'Alene. The chapel was a bower of beauty in evergreens, flags and potted plants. All the officers and ladies of the post were present. The 16th Infantry band orchestra gave the bridal chorus from Lohengrin as the bride, leaning on the arm of Adj. C. P. George, entered the church, accompanied by 2d Lieut. B. T. Simmons, and the bridesmaids, Miss Sue Bacon and Miss Bessie Wright. The groom and 2d Lieut. C. W. Castle were waiting on the right of the altar for the bridal party, who approached very slowly, keeping time with the music. The groom was in full dress uniform. The beautiful Episcopal ceremony lasted nearly twenty minutes. On either side of the altar were stacks of rides, to which were attached several trumpets, haversacks and canteens that are historical relics of the Wounded Knee fight. The bride was attired in white muslin, trimmed with white satin, without a veil, and carried a large bunch of American beauty roses. Miss Sue Bacon was dressed in white muslin, trimmed with pink ribbon. Miss Bessie Wright was dressed in white muslin trimmed with blue ribbon. Both carried bouquets of American beauty roses.

Col. and Mrs. Theaker and daughters, Madge and Nina, arrived at the fort from Vancouver Barracks on the evening of the 25th.

2d Lieut. Simmons will leave after the holidays for Fort Spokane, having been assigned to duty with Co. B.

2d Lieut. Charles W. Castle has been transferred from Co. G to Co. D, at Fort Sherman.

Lieut. Preston and bride went to Spokane the day after the wedding, and returned the same evening. They leave for Fort Spokane, Wash., after the New Year.

Lieut. and Mrs. W. K. Wright entertained Rev. Mr. Skottowe at dinner on the 22d.

SAN FRANCISCO TOWN TALK.

The luncheon given by Miss Lillian O'Connell, at the Presidio, to welcome the young ladies of the 3d Artillery, just arrived in California, was a beautiful affair. The uniquely artistic decorations shone in the artillery blue and crimson—the corsage clusters being great sprays of red and white carnations, tied with red, white and blue ribbons. In the center of the table a huge silver candelabra bore the guessing candle, wreathed in the national colors. This roused much interest, the fortunate maiden who guessed correctly how long it would burn being presented with a choice gold vinaigrette. Much was added to the general jollity by Capt. O'Connell's unprincipled efforts to blow the candle out before the proper time. Among other new and quaint devices were the name-cards, one each of which was written a motto, suiting each guest's special taste. Thus a fair cyclist was told "O'er all, the wheel is king," while an amateur photographer was adjured "And now, with camera aimed toward heaven, please turn X rays on '97." Altogether the luncheon was a most delightful affair, as was but natural, since Miss O'Connell belongs to a family noted for their skill in entertaining. Indeed, much pleasure is expressed at Capt. O'Connell's change from Angel Island to a more accessible station, his rare social talents, added to those of his charming wife, easily placing the family among those best worth knowing at the Presidio.

FORT SHERIDAN.

There have been a number of visitors in the post during the holidays, among whom may be mentioned Miss Foote, sister of Mrs. Hall, who will remain during January; Miss Grace Grimes, who with two of her school friends, Miss Violet Girard and Miss Lincoln, have spent the Christmas vacation here, soon to return to Waterman Hall for the remainder of the school year. Mrs. Ladd, sister of Capt. Mason, 4th Inf., is spending the winter with him. Miss Clara Bubb, who has been visiting in Spokane since last fall, is now at home. Mrs. Carpenter entertained some of the young people of the post last week in honor of her daughter, Miss Bessie, who is here only for a short time. The young ladies of the garrison gave a leap year party on the evening of the 30th. The novel feature of the evening was the supper, which was served by number. Some of the guests were fortunate enough to order ices, salads, etc. Others received water, paper flowers, toothpicks, or some such trifle, as they were not informed to what delicacy the number they wished for corresponded. It was the source of great amusement. On the night of Dec. 31 the Highland Park Club gave a very elegant reception to the officers and ladies of Fort Sheridan in the club house at Highland Park. Most of the members of the garrison attended, and were very courteously entertained, and everything possible was done to make the evening pleasant. The officers and their families have been most cordially received by the people of Highland Park ever since the arrival of the troops at present stationed here. The church, the club and the many beautiful homes have all opened wide their doors to them. Highland Park is noted for the culture and refinement of its residents. Quite a number of retired Army officers have settled there, among whom are Dr. Haskins, Capt. Robinson, Capt. Troxel and Capt. Drew. On New Year's Day all the officers of the garrison, in full dress uniform, called at 1 o'clock on the commanding officer, Col. Hall, and were very delightfully entertained by the Colonel and his wife and Miss Foote. Mrs. Robinson returned on Sunday last from a sad visit to Philadelphia, where she was suddenly called some weeks ago to attend the last illness of her father.

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Capt. Robert B. Benham, Asst. Surg., has been placed on retired list.

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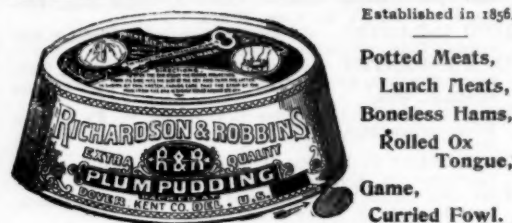
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Officers of the Army acting as Indian agents at places
where suitable quarters are provided by the Govern-
ment, are entitled to commutations of quarters. Officers
cannot base claims for commutation of quarters on re-
fusal or failure to occupy public quarters for their use.
The Asst. Controller of the Treasury has so decided in
the case of Capt. W. H. Clapp, who claimed \$432 for
commutation of quarters while serving as Indian Agent
at Berthold Agency, North Dakota, from July 1, 1894,
to June 30, 1895. The act of July 13, 1892, provides
that the President shall detail officers of the United
States Army to act as Indian Agents at all agencies
where vacancies from any cause may hereafter occur,
who, while acting as such agents, shall be under the
orders and direction of the Secretary of the Interior, ex-
cept at such agencies, where, in the opinion of the Pres-
ident, the public service would be better promoted by
the appointment of a civilian. Pursuant to the provi-
sions of this act, Capt. Clapp was detailed for duty as
agent at Fort Berthold, and soon entered upon his duty.
On March 5, 1896, he was paid \$432 by Maj. J. C.
Muhlenberg, Paymr. U. S. A., for commutation of quar-
ters. The Army Regulations provide that officers on
duty, without troops, at station where there are no pub-
lic quarters, are entitled to commutation therefor,
which will be paid by the Pay Department, at estab-
lished rates. The Auditor for the War Department
disallowed this payment because the buildings at Fort
Berthold Agency are controlled by the Government, and
are for the use, free of charge, of such employees, agents,
or persons acting in that capacity as may be detailed for
duty there by the proper officers of the Government, and
are considered adequate for the purpose. At Fort Ber-
thold there was a dwelling house, set apart for the ex-
press use of the agent, adequate and suitable in all re-
spects for his comfort. His failure to occupy it is no
affair of the Department and it was decided that he was
not entitled to commutation for quarters.

Particulars are published in Vienna of a new gun sent
from Russia to arm the new fort of the Dardanelles.
Four new guns of large calibre and two electric search
lights were sent specially from St. Petersburg, and with
them went the artificers and engineers to place them in
position. A Russian professor has offered his gratuitous
services for the working of the search lights, and these
have been accepted.

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tra Bright Long Cut and Marburg Bros.' Cele-
brated Brand "Pickings."

In a long editorial on the last article in the
"North American Review," on the subject of engineer-
ing in the United States Navy, the "Army and Navy
Gazette" says: "The way in which these officers
state the case as against the claims of the engi-
neers must command respect everywhere. They all
agree upon the new importance of the engineer, and re-
cognize that the efficiency of the modern warship largely
depends upon the manner in which he carries out his
duties, but they insist that it is the seaman who em-
ploys and directs all the forces of the ship which he
commands. That these articles will excite attention and
be read with interest throughout our own Naval Ser-
vice goes without saying. The great body of our naval
engineers have not made the same claims as those of
their brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, nor
have they descended to the methods there employed to
enforce their demands. But our engineers have their
grievances, and some of them are well-founded, a con-
dition of affairs which affords a fruitful field for the
agitator. The more thoughtful among them will doubt-
less find in these articles support for their counsels,
while the moral is so obvious that all can read it who
will."

The hearts of Scotchmen have been made glad,
according to the British Daily Mail, by learning that
the only change that the Highland regiments will expe-
rience under the new "dress scheme" will simply in-
volve the adoption, in common with the rest of the
Army, of a khaki jacket and such new head-dress as
may be finally adopted. Lord Wolseley has assured
Lord Archibald Campbell that the peace uniform will
not be interfered with in the least, it being intended to
merely substitute a more serviceable equipment for the
red tunic and feather bonnet when the regiments go on
active service.

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CHINA AS A MILITARY POWER.

A writer on "The New Situation in the Far East,"
which appeared in the Contemporary Review of last De-
cember, says: "Those who think that China will always
be beneath contempt as a military power, or as the in-
strument of a military power, provide those who know
differently with the most excellent opportunity of gain-
ing the ascendancy in the Far East. All that has been
said and written in favor of the Chinese people will yet
be realized." And now Lord Wolseley comes along and
says exactly the same thing. He describes the Chinese
people as possessing in a superlative degree all the es-
sential qualifications of good soldiers, and he predicts
that the time will come when the Chinese army will ex-
ercise a decisive influence on the future of the world.
Lord Wolseley, as a young officer, with, however, al-
ready considerable military experience acquired in the
Crimea and Indian mutiny, took part in Sir Hope
Grant's march from the mouth of the Peiho River to
Pekin, and saw how the Chinese troops fought in the
Taku forts and at the battle of Chanchiawan. He does
not hesitate to say, notwithstanding their ignominious
and decisive defeat by the Japanese, that they only need
organization and example to become as fine a fighting
force as any in the world, while their numbers must ren-
der them far more powerful than any of their neigh-
bors. The Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette says:
"So long as the present régime, or anything like it, exists
in China, there will be no genuine military reforms in
that State, and its potential military power will remain
a dream, and not a fact. But the years during which
the régime can retain the power to work or to remain
inactive are fast slipping away, and in less than another
decade the motive power will no longer be vested in the
ruler of Peking. When Russia is mistress of Manchuria
and Mongolia; when her railways extend to the Gulf of
Pe-Tchili, when the Mongol tribes have learned to act
side by side with the Cossacks, then the time will be
near at hand for the martial qualities of the Chinese
race to be welded into the fashion that best suits the new
masters of Northern China. But the guiding influence
will no longer be Manchu or Chinese. It will not be a
case of a nation bracing itself up to an effort for the pre-
servation of its liberty and independence, but of a Govern-
ment, useless and effete, carrying with it into a state
of servitude the whole people that will thenceforth have
to obey an alien will and take its lessons from a Russian
drill sergeant. Then will come the real peril from the
innate military qualifications of the Chinese nation to
the world, and how near it may be shown by the in-
creasing, and, up to a certain point resistless, efforts of
the Russian Government to acquire full control of those
Mongolian and Manchurian regions whence in the past
have emerged so many conquering races. The Cassini
convention, which is believed to represent a solid and not
an imaginary achievement of Russian diplomacy, shows
how near the decisive hour must be, and to cope with it
not merely the Chinese Government, but also the
British Government is quite unprepared. Yet the pres-
ent and prospective interests we have at stake are enor-
mous, and the destinies of this Empire may really be in-
tertwined with our decisions and actions in the Far East."

This prophecy accords with past experiences in China.
It was thus that the Manchus, from beyond the moun-
tains, conquered China with vastly inferior numbers,
there being practically no resistance. But will not his-
tory repeat itself in this as in other respects, and the in-
ertia of China overcome the enterprise of any nation
that may seek to guide her into modern ways?

It is stated that the cavalry of the German Army is
about to be re-armed with a new carbine revolver on the
Mauser system, of which the bullet will cover over a
thousand yards. It is being tested by a special commis-
sion at Berlin, and the report is that it has passed the
tests to general satisfaction, and that it will at once
supersede the old carbine.

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SERVICE PROSPECTS IN CONGRESS.

Congress is again in session and with its reassembling the hopes of Army and Navy officers for personnel legislation have risen. Chairman Hull told the Journal correspondent a few days ago that the subcommittee on the personnel of the Army, of which he is chairman, would begin the consideration of the Lamont bill at a meeting to be held next week. The matter will be discussed as quickly as consistent with careful consideration and it is Mr. Hull's hope to have a measure reported to the full committee within a very short time. It is Mr. Hull's desire that the measure be placed on the calendar within the next few weeks, so that there will be ample time for the bill finally agreed upon to receive consideration at the hands of the House. He will have a conference with Senator Hawley, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, within the next week or so and will discuss the chances of the enactment of a personnel measure before the close of the session. Senator Hawley has not yet made his report either on the Army personnel bill or the militia bill. He is hard at work on the paper and expects to present it to the Senate in a couple of days.

There is apparently a determined disposition on the part of the Senate Naval Committee not to take up the subject of personnel during this session. Senator Hale, of the subcommittee on personnel, has announced, as stated in the Journal, that he will not discuss the subject until the several factions of the Navy are able to agree on a measure which will be approved by Secretary Herbert. The same feeling of apathy is apparent in the case of a number of members of the House Naval Affairs Committee. None of the members of the committee have as yet conferred with Chairman Boutelle as to the matters to be taken up by the committee during this session. Mr. Hulick has been out of town, but his position is not to report the measure decided upon by the subcommittee until Mr. Boutelle requests such action. It is possible that the subcommittee's measure may be presented within the next few weeks, but then further discussion on the subject will be necessary, and it is not at all likely that a naval personnel bill will be taken up in either House of Congress.

It is not our desire to throw a damper upon the hopes of officers of the Army and Navy with regard to personnel legislation, but believing that the truth should always be spoken, we must say that there seems to us to be small chance of such legislation being enacted during this session. In order to draw up a suitable measure, Mr. Hull's subcommittee will have to devote some time to a discussion of the Lamont bill and any amendments which may be proposed. The measure will then be reported to the full committee, which will also require time to discuss its feature and it will then be reported to the House, should a bill be decided upon before the close of the session. In any event, it will be impossible to place a bill on the calendar until the closing days of this Congress and the rush in behalf of private legislation will, prominent members of Congress say, crowd a service measure to the wall.

A similar view of the chances of the naval personnel bill must be given. It is true that the subcommittee of the House Naval Committee has decided upon a measure, but that measure has not yet been reported and then it is there will be a long drawn-out debate among members of the full committee as to its virtues and defects and a large number of changes will be suggested which will require long discussion. In view of this fact, there is not much hope among the members of the committee that a bill will be reported during this session. This lack of intention to bring the matter to focus together with the announced determination of the Senate Naval Committee to do nothing with per-

sonnel legislation makes it practically certain that no bill of this character will get through unless there is a great change of feeling among members of the two committees. Representative Francis H. Wilson, of New York, is one of the few members who is making an earnest fight for the measure which has been agreed upon by the subcommittee. He said to the Journal correspondent: "If anybody believes I want a republic on board a man-of-war he is very much mistaken. While I believe in a republic, I recognize the fact that there must be military discipline on board our warships. There can be no doubt in the mind of any man who takes the trouble to read the provision of my original bill which has been incorporated into the consolidated bill drawn up by the subcommittee on the personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps, that I do not desire the engineer to command in any other department than his own, and then subject to the authority of his commanding officer. The language of the fiftieth section is as follows: 'That officers of the staff corps of the Navy shall command in their own departments subject to the authority of the commanding officer, but shall not be entitled to command in the line or other staff corps; but all officers by virtue of their commissions shall command enlisted men.' Of course, in every contest for reform there are extreme men on both sides of the question and neither side can secure all its claims. What Legislators desire to do is to get all the facts so as to give due consideration to a measure and to treat the whole subject with as much judicial fairness as possible and to reach that result which they believe is, all things considered, for the best interests of the service."

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR FOREIGN POLICY?

The New York "Sun" calls attention to what was said some time ago by Senor Moret, a leader of the Spanish Liberal party, concerning the importance of retaining Cuba as a Gibraltar of Europe in the Western Hemisphere. Spain, as we are given to understand by Senor Moret, stands ready to make room in Cuba for any European army which may hereafter need it for a purpose hostile to us, and to which Cuba would be advantageous as an arsenal, naval depot, or base of operations against our Atlantic seaboard or in the Gulf of Mexico. "Europe," he said, "cannot afford it that Cuba shall be separated from Europe." A recognition of this danger to our own security involved in the continuance of foreign authority over the Antilles should be the key to our policy in the West Indies.

The world will gain little from the release of Cuba from Spanish control until the island becomes an integral part of an American system, whose fundamental principle is hostility to the intrusion of European interests into American affairs. Europe has nothing to fear from aggression on the part of America, passing the bounds of the two great oceans; we should make it clear that America is equally free from the dread of European ambitions on this side of the water. Our national policy should be to draw closer the bonds of American sympathies and interests, and there are vague gropings on the part of Congress in this direction. These will result in good if every step in the right direction is taken with deliberation and calmness; not in response to hysterical appeals calling upon us to insult the Spanish nation. Firmness and determination of purpose win respect that is never accorded to mere rhetoric.

When former Presidents have appealed to Congress to improve opportunities offering for extending our authority by peaceful measures over the islands along our seaboard, they have been answered with indifference; sometimes, as in the case of Grant and Sumner, with open insult. If Congress now finds its purposes thwarted by a supine executive, it is merely taking its turn in the experience each member of an ill-matched team is subject to in being obliged to pull the load alone. Perhaps during another four years we may have the happiness to see Congress and the President united in the pursuit of a foreign policy, so enlightened and progressive that it shall win respect everywhere for the doctrine of American for the Americans. Such a policy is not necessarily warlike, and can accomplish its purposes by peaceful methods if it is firm, consistent and persistent, being continued without interruption from administration to administration. That is all, but that is much, considering the tendency to division that has hitherto characterized our counsels. We obtained the great territories of Florida and Louisiana and the territory of Alaska without war, and if the possession of California involved a quarrel with a neighboring State, it has left no root of bitterness behind. The wisdom that directed our relations with Mexico, when the malign tendencies of European policy toward this country were revealed during the reign of Napoleon III., has atoned to Mexico for the unrighteous war of aggression of 1846-47, and the only such war that has stained our annals.

Not only have we extended our authority over vast possessions by peaceful methods, but we might have made it more secure for the future by taking advantage of opportunities that do not repeat themselves, to obtain control of the outworks of our continental possessions. When Europe withdrew from so large a portion of this continent without solicitation, we should have locked the door behind her. There is no part of the two American continents, or their outlying islands, upon which she is welcome except as a guest who, if not in sympathy with the domestic regime he is invited to participate in, is at least discretely silent concerning it.

The foreign policy we would have this country adopt is a policy of peace, avoiding war by avoiding the occasion for war. Imagine our situation if the Florida and

Louisiana territories had remained to this day under European control! Yet their transfer to our flag was opposed by the same class of men who to-day sneer and snarl at what they choose to call "jingoism." Our possession of these great territories has never been viewed with jealousy by the States from whom we obtained them. We have maintained the best of relations with France, and the difficulties with Spain result, not from her transfer of territory to us, but from her continuance in possession of an American colony. Europe has gained as much from such transfers as we have. Her true interests demand, not less than our own interests, that they should continue until not a single foreign flag flies over American soil. France saw this to be so in the days of Napoleon the Great, but to Napoleon the Little came the dream of transcontinental empire, and he pursued this ignis fatuus until it landed him in the slough of disaster and humiliation. His own downfall is not remotely connected with his disastrous partnership with Maximilian in the Mexican venture. It injured the prestige of France and wounded the pride of the French people.

What was it but the sturdy patriotism of men like Grant, Sherman and Sheridan that saved Mexico to America? Had we then listened to such puling publicists as are now demanding a hearing in national affairs, the flag of France would still be floating over Mexico. Instead of the cordial relations we now have with the great Republic across the water, we should be full of bitterness and contention. The one hundred thousand veterans sent to the Mexican frontier after our war of the Rebellion closed, settled the Mexican question for us. Considering how it was settled; considering the results that have followed the settlement, was not their mission in the highest sense one of peace, in spite of the fact that they were armed men, and bore the name of soldier, that so many make synonymous with injustice and aggression?

FORTIFYING OUR SOUTHERN COAST.

Governor Mitchell, of Florida, has issued an invitation to the Governors of the Southern States, to Gen. Miles, commanding the Army, and to Army officers generally as well as to interested men of influence in all parts of the country to meet in convention at Tampa, Fla., on the 10th inst., to consider the comparatively defenceless condition of the Southern coasts. The meeting will be in session several days, and will thoroughly discuss the state of the seaboard fortifications, with a view to formulating recommendations and devising means for the improvement of the Southern defences. The importance of the object of the meeting has elicited generally favorable responses, and a large attendance is probable. Of the Northern States, Senator-elect Foraker has been deputed by Governor Bushnell, of Ohio, to attend the convention, and he has signified his intention of being present. Important duties will prevent the attendance of Gen. Miles, much to his own regret, but he has written a letter of approval to Governor Mitchell, and will urge the attendance of as large a delegation of Army officers as possible.

The work on the Southern fortifications authorized by the appropriation bill of the last session is being pushed to completion as rapidly as possible at all points. The work at Charleston, consisting of two 10-inch guns and sixteen 12-inch mortars, is practically completed, and the work at Fort Pickens, in the harbor of Pensacola, comprising three 10-inch guns, will be finished inside of two months. The appropriation calls for the construction of batteries of four 8-inch guns at Savannah, two 8-inch and four 10-inch guns and sixteen 12-inch mortars at Key West, two 8-inch guns at Mobile, two 10-inch guns at New Orleans, and two 10-inch guns, one rapid fire gun and eight 12-inch mortars at Galveston. Delays have been occasioned in the work of construction at Key West, Savannah, and Mobile, on account of the difficulty of acquiring sites, but these have at last been procured, and the work will be everywhere pushed with as much vigor as practicable.

Gen. Miles, in an interview with a representative of the "Journal" on Wednesday, said: "The fortifications already contracted for, although a long step in the right direction, should be viewed in the light of a beginning only, and the strength and number of these Southern fortifications, as well as the defenses at other points, should be liberally increased. In line with this the passage of the pending legislation for the increase of the infantry and artillery is imperative. Our posts and defenses, though far too few, cannot possibly be adequately armed and operated by the present forces, much less can an increase of our fortified strength become a working reality without at least the small additions to the Army asked for in the pending bills. Our costly modern batteries necessitate a larger number of well-trained artillery men, and the increase of our population makes advisable a corresponding enlargement of the infantry arms."

A charter was granted at Harrisburg, Pa., on Tuesday to the Wheeler Projectile Co., of Pittsburg. The new concern has a capital of \$350,000, and the charter grants the right to manufacture armor and armor piercing projectiles. It is said that the company will manufacture armor plates as soon as possible, and may use the Harvey method of carbonizing, the letters patent on that process having been found defective. These patents are now owned by the Bethlehem Steel and Carnegie companies. The Firth Steel Co. and the Sir Henry Armstrong Shipbuilding Co. are interested in the new company, who already have orders to ship abroad.

PORTSMOUTH CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

The complimentary banquet given by the Board of Trade, at Portsmouth, in the salon of the "Rockingham" to U. S. Senator Gallinger, Congressman Sulloway and Congressman-elect Clark was to do honor to the visiting delegation and invite their attention to the Navy Yard here as an advantageous point for the construction of a dry-dock and to ask their efforts to secure its early accomplishment. One hundred of the prominent business men of the city were seated at the table, and as viewed by a stranger to such a wealth of viands, flowers, music and drilled table service, the banquet, to do it justice, was simply unique. The artistic menu at plate excited patriotism, as well as appetite, by its faithful reproduction of the Constitution and Kearsarge, the latter in the background, but not less stimulating.

Ex-United States Senator Frank Jones, whom the citizens of Portsmouth always delight to honor, was invited to preside as host. Upon his right as guests of honor were seated Mr. Gallinger, Mr. Clark and Mayor Junkin, and upon his left the Navy was represented by the Commandant of the yard, an engineer and a medical officer. Mayor Junkin welcomed the guests, and indicated the commercial and naval advantages of the city attested by its former distinction in these respects.

The Commandant of the yard, in response to an invitation from Toastmaster Howard, expressed his thorough appreciation of the value of the yard to the Government, its capableness, salubrity, and encouraged the citizens to continue their efforts to induce Congress to authorize the construction of a modern and capacious dock.

Mr. Clark, with other eloquent local orators, were fervent in expression upon the subject and engaged attention until after midnight, when Mr. Gallinger was heartily greeted and discoursed at length. His detail of personal efforts in the Senate to accomplish the object desired and failure was of deep interest to the banqueters, and while evidently received with favor and gratitude to Mr. Gallinger chagrin could not be concealed. His ardent, and, at times, humorous mention of objections by those favoring a more southern point, was greeted with laughter, which restored a more cheerful and hopeful mood.

Mr. Gallinger spoke encouragingly, and expressed belief that with a better appreciation of the value of this location all objections would disappear, and that a dry-dock would be built.

One opinion prevailed—for eligibility Portsmouth cannot be surpassed.

WHAT GERMANY CANNOT FORGIVE AMERICA.

It is bad enough that we should in German eyes represent the principles of government hostile to those of an empire, but in the eyes of a Prussian landlord we commit daily sins more grievous still. We are shipping to Germany breadstuffs, and even meat, to an enormous extent, all of which compete with the wheat and meat grown by loyal Germans. It is bad enough in their eyes that Russia and Hungary, both of them monarchial countries, should compete with the monarchial pigs and cereals of the Fatherland, but it is nothing less than sacrilege that the profits of Prussian landlords should be diminished by importation from such a republic as ours. The German squire would gladly enforce a law excluding all food produce from every country, in order that the people might be forced to pay higher prices for bread, but, fortunately for other countries, there is in Germany a large and intelligent industrial class, who see good reasons why they should have cheap food, even if the landlord must receive smaller rents.

Then, again, Germany cannot forgive our country for attracting every year a large number of young men who are fit for military service. She says, and with some show of justice: "We have given these young men their education at the expense of the State, and now, when they are in a position to pay back to the Fatherland the debt they owe, they sail away to a new country and become Americans." The German is unwilling to believe that his fellow-countrymen emigrate to America because they prefer American institutions to those of their own country; on the contrary he is firmly persuaded that we, in some underhand manner, entice good Germans away by means of heavy bounties or fraudulent representations made by government agents. In fact, so deeply grounded is the German suspicion regarding things American that they are ready to believe anything about our country, so long as it is not complimentary. For instance, I have not only seen it taken for granted in print, but even heard it stated in conversation by educated Germans, who certainly meant no disrespect to me, that our War of Independence, as well as the Civil War, were won because we had in our ranks so large a number of Germans, or because our men were drilled and commanded by Germans. These absurd propositions are made in such good faith that it is impossible to dispute the matter with a German for fear of wounding his national pride. To him there was but one hero in the war of 1776, namely, Steuben; and as for the war of 1860, of course the hero was Franz Sigel.—From "The German Press and the United States," by Poulney Bigelow, in North American Review for January.

Gov. Black, of New York, in his first annual message, has this to say concerning the State troops: "The National Guard of the State, including the naval militia, consists of about fourteen thousand men. The naval militia has come to be an important arm of the service, but the equipment for practical training is inadequate. I suggest that you consider the subject of building a State cruiser upon which the naval militia might receive such actual training as is provided the guard in the camp at Peekskill. The discipline and efficiency of the National Guard are high, and actuated by a desire to maintain this condition I suggest to the Legislature the wisdom of putting this body upon a footing where its chief executive officer is not likely to be changed at every political election. This officer ought not to be subject to political control and the frequent changes alluded to must have a disheartening effect upon the members of the National Guard and impair its high standard of service."

At the annual meeting of the Navy Mutual Aid Association held at the Navy Department on Tuesday evening of this week, Paymr. John R. Carmody, presiding, the following named gentlemen were unanimously elected officers of the association and resident directors for the ensuing year. President, Chief, Constr. Philip Hichborn; first vice-president, Comdr. W. Maynard; second vice-president, Chief Engr. G. W. Baird; resident directors, Prof. P. R. Alger, Lieut. E. B. Barry, Paymr. J. R. Carmody, Comdr. F. W. Dickinson, Chief Engr. J. R. Edwards, Gunner G. Fouse, Lieut. C. E. Fox, Surg. J. D. Gatewood, Lieut. Comdr. J. M. Hawley, Comdr. J. M. Hemphill, Lieut. Comdr. E. C. Pendleton, Prof. E. K. Ranson, Lieut. A. Sharp, Lieut. Comdr. E. D. Taussig, Lieut. Comdr. R. Wainwright, Lieut. D. L. Wilson, Capt. M. C. Gordrell, U. S. M. C.

CONGRESS.

The Military Academy bill is still on the House Calendar. It will probably be taken up next week.

The Senate Naval Committee will hold a meeting next week, during which it will begin the discussion of Secretary Herbert's report on the armor plate question. This is now the only business of importance, besides the personnel matter, before the committee.

The subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee of the House is expected to begin in a few days the consideration of the bill appropriating funds for carrying on the work of coast defense. It is the intention of the subcommittee to hear Gen. Flagler, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, and Gen. Craighill, Chief of Engineers, on this subject. Senator Squire has announced his intention of offering several amendments to the measure when it reaches the Senate.

The enrolled bill to grant a pension to Charlotte O. Van Cleve, widow of the late Gen. Horatio P. Van Cleve, has been signed.

Senator Hoar presented a petition to the Senate on Tuesday, signed by members of the Council of the Massachusetts Historical Society, remonstrating against the destruction of the old Constitution and praying that she be repaired.

The Military Committee of the Senate has referred to the War Department for opinion the amendment proposed to be offered to the Army Appropriation bill, providing that all vacancies which may hereafter occur in the grade of Major in the Adjutant General's Department shall be filled by appointment from the Captains of the Army who shall have passed a satisfactory examination therefor under such regulations as the President shall establish. There is no question that the Department will make a favorable endorsement upon the measure. It has been the policy of President Cleveland to give all vacancies in the Adjutant General's Department, and, in fact, in all of the departments of the Army, with the exception of the Judge Advocate General's, to officers of the line, and the amendment which Senator Hawley intends to propose is simply an enactment of this policy. Senator Hawley believes the amendment is one that should by all means prevail, and he does not see that there can be any opposition to its adoption. In this he is quite right, and there should be no objection to the change.

The sub-committee of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, which has charge of the Army Appropriation act, has not yet paid any attention to the bill which passed the House. Senator Hale is expected to bring it up in a few days. It is not believed that there will be any important provisions added to the bill, and the sub-committee is not expected to lose any time in reporting it to the full committee.

The bill for reappointment and retirement of J. N. Quackenbush passed the Senate on Thursday last. The act will now go to the House and Mr. Updegraff, who has secured the report of the House measure from the Committee on Judiciary intends to bring it to a vote at the first opportunity. Mr. Quackenbush's friends are hopeful that the measure will be passed and laid before the President for approval in ample time for that official to act.

The Senate passed on Thursday the bill referring the claim of F. C. Reed, Jr. for \$70,750, growing out of the brig Armstrong incident to the Court of Claims for adjudication. The Senate has passed the bill for the relief of Comdr. Joshua Bishop, which has been heretofore printed in the "Journal."

The House Military Committee on Jan. 8 decided to take up the Army Reorganization bill on Monday next. The measure will not be referred to the sub-committee as was originally proposed, but its features will be discussed by the full committee on the date named. It is not yet decided whether there shall be hearings, but it is the intention of Chairman Hull not to do anything which will delay an early report as a result of the action. The committee's friends on the reorganization measure are much gratified and the belief is expressed that it will result in placing the measure on the calendar much earlier than was anticipated, thus increasing its chances of passage.

The sub-committee of the Senate Naval Committee have held a meeting and began considering claims preferred by the Messrs. Cramp and the Quintard Iron Works, on account of the delay in the construction of certain war vessels.

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce considered on Jan. 8 charges made against Civil Engineer A. G. Menocal, U. S. N., by an Englishman named Knight, growing out of Menocal's statement that he had not signed a certificate to the Nicaraguan Government, setting forth that the maritime canal company had expended more than two million dollars in canal construction. Knight desires the committee, it is said, to ascertain the truth of the statement, and the matter has been referred to the sub-committee on the Nicaraguan Canal for investigation.

H. R. 9822.—That officers of the Army to whom medals of honor have been awarded in the name of Congress, under the Joint Resolution approved July 12, 1862, or the act approved March 3, 1865, shall be designated upon each published register of the Army of the United States by the letters M. H., which shall be borne immediately after the names of said officers where arranged in said register according to departments, corps, regiments, and the retired list.

SIMPLICITY OF AMERICAN OFFICIAL LIFE.

The real simplicity which pervades American official life is fully exemplified in the modest mode of living, followed by all the Cabinet officers, except the few who have great fortunes. They do well what etiquette and the dignity of their positions requires of them, but they don't do any more. Their wives and daughters don't blaze with jewels; their sons are kept pretty close in the point of expenditures, and they practice economy in other ways in order that they may do decently what their position requires of them. Yet, it is doubtful if it is possible for a Cabinet officer to live up to his salary; and the majority of them go out of office very poor men. It is true that the prominence they have gained is in some sort a fund upon which they can draw for future prosperity, and they very soon recoup, in their profession, all they have lost; but they pay for their whistle—there is no doubt of that. The view that a rural neighbor takes of a Cabinet officer is instanced in a joke that Mr. Miller, who was Attorney-General in President Harrison's Cabinet, used to tell on himself. At his first visit to his old home in Indiana he asked a horny-handed old farmer he had known ever since he was born: "Well, John, what did the people hereabouts say to my appointment as Attorney-General?" "They didn't say anything," replied John, curtly, "they just laughed."—The Illustrated American.

Lieut. C. S. Hall, 13th Inf., has resigned to escape court martial for alleged serious offenses.

THE NAVY.

H. A. HERBERT, Secretary. WM. MCADOO, Asst. Sec'y.

NAVY GAZETTE.

DEC. 24.—Asst. Engr. C. B. Price, orders of Dec. 18 modified so as he may delay reporting until Dec. 31. Lieuts. C. J. Badger, R. F. Nicholson and Ensign N. K. Benham, ordered as members of G. C. M. at Washington, D. C., Dec. 28.

DEC. 26.—Capt. George W. Coffin, relieved as a member of retiring board. Naval Constr. D. W. Taylor, ordered from Washington, D. C.

DEC. 28.—Comdr. W. W. Resinger, ordered before medical survey, Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.

DEC. 28.—Comdr. W. Maynard, ordered before medical survey, Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.

Lieut. Comdr. G. B. Harber, ordered from Washington, D. C., to League Island and return.

DEC. 31.—Passed Asst. Surgeon M. S. Guest, detached from the Massachusetts, Jan. 9, and ordered to the Vesuvius, Jan. 12.

Passed Asst. Surg. L. W. Atlee, detailed from the Richmond on relief and ordered to the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

Passed Asst. Surgeon W. F. Arnold, detached from the Enterprise and ordered to the Richmond.

Passed Asst. Surg. R. P. Crandall, detached from the St. Mary's and ordered to Naval Hospital, Norfolk.

Asst. Surg. F. Morris, promoted to Passed Asst. Surg. from Jan. 27, 1897.

Comdr. J. Bishop, retired Dec. 31, 1896.

Asst. Engr. R. E. Carney, retired from Dec. 31, 1896.

JAN. 2.—Lieut. G. L. Dyer, detached from the Massachusetts Jan. 9 and ordered to the Vesuvius Jan. 12.

Asst. Engr. D. E. Dismukes, ordered to Norfolk Yard Jan. 15.

Comdr. J. C. Morong, ordered to Mare Island as senior member Board of Inspections.

Passed Asst. Paymr. H. A. Dent, detailed from Castine Jan. 11, and ordered home to settle accounts and wait orders.

Passed Asst. Paymr. E. B. Webster, ordered to the Castine Jan. 11.

JAN. 4.—Duke Darnall, appointed pay clerk for naval station, Key West, to report 11th inst.

Pay Clerk G. E. Freeman, resignation accepted Jan. 11.

William Brooks, appointed Acting Boatswain from Jan. 4.

Passed Asst. Engr. F. W. Bartlett, detailed from the Massachusetts Jan. 9, and ordered to the Vesuvius Jan. 12.

Asst. Engr. C. R. Emrich, detailed from Montgomery Jan. 9, and ordered to the Massachusetts.

Lieut. Comdr. E. S. Prime, detailed as Inspector of Steel at South Bethlehem, and ordered to Harrisburg, Reading and Steelton as Inspector of Steel.

JAN. 5.—A. S. Mackenzie, appointed Acting Gunner Jan. 5.

Asst. Naval Constr. T. F. Ruhm, detached from Union Iron Works, March 15, and ordered to Mare Island Yard, March 16.

Asst. Naval Constr. E. Snow, detached from Mare Island Yard Feb. 1, and ordered to Union Iron Works Feb. 2.

Lieut. J. A. Shearman, detached from the Blake Jan. 8 and granted three months' leave.

Lieut. H. Phelps, detached from the Naval Academy Jan. 30 and ordered to the Texas Feb. 1.

Lieut. R. Welles, detached from the Texas Jan. 30, and ordered to the Enterprise Feb. 1.

Medical Director H. M. Wells will be retired Jan. 20.

JAN. 6.—Ensign J. F. Carter, detached from the Constellation and ordered to the Saratoga Jan. 9.

JAN. 7.—Surg. C. W. Gravatt, ordered to Museum of Hygiene.

Chief Engr. G. H. Kearney, transferred from the Minneapolis to the Cincinnati.

Chief Engr. J. H. Chasmar, from the Cincinnati to the San Francisco as Fleet Engineer.

Lieut. Comdr. W. H. Everett, transferred from steel board Jan. 11 to duty at Hydrographic Office.

Chief Engr. W. A. Windsor, from the San Francisco to the Minneapolis.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

Capt. Merrill Miller was relieved from command of the Raleigh Jan 7 by Capt. C. J. Barclay and has left for his home.

Memorials have been received by the Senate from the Massachusetts Historical Association and other similar organizations in New England, asking that Congress take some action for making the old warship Constitution as much like the ship of thirty years ago as possible. The Constitution is now at Portsmouth (N. H.) Yard, where she has been for twenty years. Her hull is badly decayed, but her timbers are understood to be in good condition, and could be utilized in rebuilding the vessel. Three years ago Congress appropriated \$8,000 to repair the ship, so that the trip to Washington could be made, where she was to be fitted up as a naval museum and anchored in the Potomac just in the rear of the Washington Monument and the White House. This money has never been expended, for it was discovered that the old ship drew two feet more water than there is in the channel of the Potomac. Another suggestion is that Old Ironsides be sent to Annapolis and used as a museum for the Naval Academy. The New Englanders, however, will make a determined fight to have her practically rebuilt and used as a training ship. Chief Constructor Hichborn surveyed the ship a few years ago and reported that for \$300,000 a new Constitution could be built on the lines of the present vessel, preserving at the same time the famous tumble-home sides that deflected the shots of the Guerriere, the towering masts and the enormous spread of canvas. Naval officers believe that it is far better to build a new vessel and call her the Constitution than to patch up the present hulk and keep it at Kittery.

The pneumatic tubes of the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius have not been removed, as has been stated in several newspapers. They are in perfect condition for throwing aerial torpedoes and are ready for service as when they made such wonderfully accurate target practice at Port Royal. They will also have the advantage of torpedo projectiles, each carrying either 50,200 or 500 lbs. of nitro-gelatin, and these projectiles are now fitted with fuses that will explode whenever they strike. As the range of the fifty-lb. shells is more than three miles, and that of the 200-pounders is about two miles, the terrible power of this craft in attacking shore fortifications can hardly be estimated. While lying at a comparatively safe distance from a fort in the day time, and at an absolutely safe distance at night the Vesuvius might destroy a whole garrison by a half dozen well-directed 200-lb. torpedoes. The Vesuvius probably will not take her torpedoes with her when she sails for the Southern coasts in a few days, but they could be quickly sent to her.

VESSELS OF THE U. S. NAVY IN COMMISSION.

(The letters in parentheses following the name of the commanding officer denote the station or service to which the vessel is assigned.)

NORTH ATLANTIC STATION.—Rear Adm. F. M. Bunce. Address Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y., for the present, unless otherwise noted.

ASIATIC STATION.—Rear Adm. F. V. McNair. Address all mail Yokohama, Japan, unless otherwise noted.

EUROPEAN STATION.—Rear Adm. T. O. Selfridge, Jr. Address, care of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London, England, unless otherwise noted.

PACIFIC STATION.—Rear Adm. L. A. Beardslee. Address Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal., except where otherwise noted.

SOUTH ATLANTIC STATION.—Capt. Yates Stirling assigned to temporary command. Address, care B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London, England, unless otherwise noted.

ADAMS, 6 Guns, Comdr. E. W. Watson (p. s.)
Address care Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. At San Francisco, Cal. Comdr. W. C. Gibson ordered to command.

ALBATROSS (F. C. Ves.) Lieut. Comdr. J. F. Moser. s. d.) Address San Francisco, Cal., where she is en route from Honolulu.

ALERT, 4 Guns, Comdr. F. Hanford (p. s.)
Address all mail care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. At Honolulu.

ALLIANCE, 7 Guns, Comdr. H. N. Mauney.
(Training-ship.) En route home from her cruise. Left St. Kitts for St. Thomas Jan. 6. Due at Newport News, Va., before the end of the present month.

AMPHITRITE, 6 Guns, Capt. W. C. Wise (n. a. s.)
At Hampton Roads, Va.

BANCROFT, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. Chas. Belknap, (e. s.) Smyrna. Address care B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London. Lieut. Comdr. C. H. Arnold sailed to command per steamer of Dec. 23.

BENNINGTON, 6 Guns, Comdr. H. E. Nichols (p. s.)
At Jiquilisco harbor, Salvador, and will make surveys there, and when completed will go to Istapa, Guatemala, to make surveys.

BOSTON, 8 Guns, Capt. Frank Wildes (a. s.)
At Chefoo, China.

BROOKLYN, 20 Guns, Capt. F. A. Cook (n. a. s.)
At League Island, Pa., to proceed to Hampton Roads, Va.

CASTINE, 8 Guns, Comdr. R. M. Berry (a. s.)
At Norfolk, Va. Will return to Montevideo.

CINCINNATI, 11 Guns, Capt. M. L. Johnson (e. s.)
At Smyrna.

COLUMBIA, 11 Guns, Capt. J. H. Sands (n. a. s.)
At New York Navy Yard.

CONSTELLATION, Comdr. John McGowan (Training ship.) Newport, R. I.

CUSHING (Torpedo boat), Lieut. J. C. Freemont (s. d.)
At Newport, R. I.

DETROIT, 10 Guns, Comdr. Geo. C. Reiter (a. s.)
At Shanghai, China.

DOLPHIN (Desp. boat), (s. d.), Lieut. Comdr. R. Clover.
Left Washington, D. C., Jan. 4, for Jacksonville, Fla., and arrived Jan. 6.

ENTERPRISE, 6 Guns, Comdr. Jos. G. Eaton.
(Nautical school-ship of Massachusetts.) At Boston, Mass.

ESSEX, 6 Guns, Comdr. E. T. Strong (Training-ship.)
At New York Navy Yard. Is going to Newport. Will shortly proceed on her winter cruise, the itinerary of which is as follows: Leave Newport about Jan. 15; arrive Barbados Feb. 9, leave Feb. 19; arrive St. Kitts Feb. 26, leave March 11; arrive St. Thomas March 13, leave March 23; arrive La Guayra March 31, leave April 7; arrive Kingston April 14, leave April 21; arrive Key West May 5, leave May 15; arrive Savannah May 20, leave May 27; arrive Gardiner's Bay June 10.

FERN (Desp. boat), Lieut. Comdr. H. B. Mansfield (n. a. s.) At Fort Monroe, Va.

FRANKLIN, 30 Guns, Capt. Silas W. Terry (Receiving-ship.) At Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.

FISH HAWK (F. C. Vessel.) Lieut. F. Swift. At New Bedford, Mass.

INDEPENDENCE (Receiving-ship), Capt. Louis Kempff. At Mare Island, Cal.

INDIANA, 16 Guns, Capt. H. C. Taylor (n. a. s.)
At Hampton Roads, Va.

KATAHDIN, Ram, Comdr. R. P. Leary (n. a. s.)
At Navy Yard, N. Y.

LANCASTER, 12 Guns, Capt. Yates Stirling (s. a. s.)
(Flagship.) At Montevideo. Address, care B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London, England.

MACHIAS, 8 Guns, Comdr. M. R. S. Mackenzie (a. s.)
Left Hong Kong, China, for Canton, Jan. 6.

MAINE, 10 Guns, Capt. A. S. Crowninshield (n. a. s.)
At Hampton Roads, Va.

MARBLEHEAD, 10 Guns, Comdr. T. F. Jewell.
At New York Navy Yard.

MARION, 8 Guns, Comdr. J. G. Green (p. s.)
Address mail care of U. S. Consul, Panama, U. S. C. At Jiquilisco, Salvador.

MASSACHUSETTS, 16 Guns, Capt. Frederick Rogers.
(n. a. s.) At New York Navy Yard.

MICHIGAN, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. E. H. C. Leutze.
At Erie, Pa., for the winter.

MINNEAPOLIS, 11 Guns, Capt. G. H. Wadleigh (e. s.)
At Beirut Jan. 2.

MONADNOCK, 6 Guns (Monitor), Capt. G. W. Sumner (p. s.)
At Monterey Jan. 6.

MONOCACY, 6 Guns, Comdr. O. W. Farenholt (a. s.)
At Tangku, China, near mouth of Peiho River for winter.

MONTREY, 4 Guns, Capt. C. E. Clark. (p. s.)
At Santa Barbara, Cal.

MONTGOMERY, 10 Guns, Comdr. R. B. Bradford (n. a. s.)
At New York Navy Yard.

NEWARK, 18 Guns, Capt. C. M. Chester (n. a. s.)
Watching for filibusters off the Florida coast. Her postoffice address is Key West, Fla. At Port Royal coaling Jan. 7, to return to Jacksonville.

NEW YORK, 18 Guns, Capt. W. S. Schley (n. a. s.)
(Flagship.) At Hampton Roads, Va.

OLYMPIA, 14 Guns, Capt. J. J. Read (a. s.) (Flagship.)
At Nagasaki, Japan.

OREGON, 16 Guns, Capt. H. L. Howison (p. s.)
At San Francisco, Cal. Ordered to cruise along southern California coast.

PETREL, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. E. P. Wood.
At Mare Island, Cal.

PHILADELPHIA, 12 Guns, Capt. C. S. Cotton (p. s.)
Address care of Navy Pay Office, San Francisco, Cal. (Flagship.) At Valparaiso Jan. 1.

PINTA, 4 Howitzers, Lieut. Comdr. F. M. Symonds (s. d.) At Sitka, Alaska, where mail should be addressed.

PURITAN (Monitor), 10 Guns, Capt. J. R. Bartlett (n. a. s.) At the New York Navy Yard.

RALEIGH, 11 Guns, Capt. C. J. Barclay (n. a. s.)
At Key West watching for Cuban filibusters. Address Key West, Fla.

RICHMOND (Receiving-ship), Lieut. Comdr. C. A. Adams in temporary command. At League Island, Pa.

ST. MARY'S, 8 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. W. L. Field. (Public Marine School.) New York. Address, care of Board of Education, New York City.

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Guns, Capt. E. M. Shepard (e. s.) (Flagship of the squadron.) At Villefranche Jan. 2.

SARATOGA, Comdr. C. T. Hutchins (Penn schoolship.)
At Philadelphia, Pa. Preparing for her winter cruise. Her itinerary is: Leave Philadelphia about Jan. 11; arrive Martinique Jan. 27; leave Feb. 5; arrive St. Kitts Feb. 8; leave Feb. 18; arrive La Guayra Feb. 24; leave March 8; arrive Santa Cruz March 17; leave March 22; arrive St. Thomas March 23; leave March 28; arrive Capes of Delaware April 10.

STILETTO, torpedo boat, Lieut. H. Hutchins, Newport, R. I.

TERROR, 4 Guns, Monitor, Capt. P. F. Harrington (n. a. s.) At New York.

TEXAS, 8 Guns, Capt. Henry Glass (n. a. s.)
At New York Navy Yard.

THETIS, 2 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. U. Seabee (s. d.)
Off Cape San Lucas, Cal., to make survey of Pacific coast of Mexico. Address San Diego, Cal.

VERMONT, 1 Gun, Capt. Silas Casey (Receiving-ship.)
At New York Navy Yard.

WABASH, 20 Guns, Capt. A. Kautz (Receiving-ship.)
At Boston, Mass.

YORKTOWN, 6 Guns, Comdr. Chas. H. Stockton (a. s.)
At Shanghai, China.

YANTIC, 4 Guns, Lieut. Comdr. F. P. Gilmore (a. s.)
At Montevideo, Uruguay. Lieut. Comdr. J. M. Miller ordered to command per steamer of Dec. 16.

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

JAN. 2.—2d Lieut. G. C. Carmine granted five days' extension of leave of absence.

JAN. 4.—Capt. A. D. Littlefield, granted thirty days' leave of absence.

Chief Engr. F. E. Owen, granted 30 days' leave of absence.

3d Lieut. F. C. Billard, granted three days' extension of leave of absence.

JAN. 5.—Capt. O. C. Hamlet and 1st Lieut. W. E. Reynolds, appointed a board to examine and report condition of revenue steamer McLane.

JAN. 6.—2d Asst. Engr. D. W. Blake, granted three days' extension of leave of absence. Board of officers to convene on practice ship Chase (Capt. O. C. Hamlet, president of board), for the examination of Cadet G. H. Mann.

The Chase reached St. Petersburg, Florida, Dec. 16. She will be there until some time in April. The cadets of both classes have returned from leave granted them on Dec. 24. Cadet George H. Mann, who has been performing duty on the Fessenden, returned to the Chase last Monday. The present list of cadets is as follows:

C. W. Cairnes, H. Ulke, G. H. Mann, E. E. Mead, Eben Barker, W. G. Bladell, J. V. Wild, H. G. Fisher, O. G. Haines, W. A. Wiley, John Mel, A. H. Buhner, Charles Satterlee, W. J. Wheeler, H. H. Wolff, E. Blake, P. H. Scott, P. C. Prince, J. F. Hottel, W. W. Holling, F. B. Goudey and F. W. Smith.

U. S. NAVAL ACADEMY.

Annapolis, Jan. 7, 1897.

The work of extending the Academy grounds between the new power house and the Santee's wharf is nearly completed. The several dredges and tugs employed at the work give the river the most lively appearance it has ever had. The extension adds about 100 feet of ground, in addition to affording a landing place for the yacht Robert Center and the torpedo boat, as the depth of water along the new sea wall will be about 12 feet.

There are thirty-two cadets in training for the crew this year. Capt. McCarthy will put his men in the boats as soon as the weather permits. Mr. Richard Armstrong, Yale '95, has been engaged to coach the crew, and he will be down in a few days to look over the ground. The prospects for a winning crew are very bright.

Many cadets saw the old year out and the new year in, enlivening the time with blithe roundelay and other forbidden articles. New Year's Day passed very pleasantly; Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Beatty and Mrs. Craven received. A card party was given at the home of Mrs. Craven on Saturday evening.

An enjoyable cadet hop took place on the evening of Dec. 31. Cadet Du Bose and Mrs. Colovcoreses receiving.

The officers will give a hop in the armory next Saturday evening.

There have been a number of visitors at the Academy during the past week, among them being the Misses Scott and Peachy, of Washington, and Miss Woodward, of New York.

Miss Nelson, of Columbus, Ohio, is visiting her cousin, P. A. Engr. Eldridge.

Cadet Z. H. Madison, of the second class, has been granted sick leave until May 28, and left yesterday for his home in Illinois. Cadet J. A. Hand was called home Monday by the sudden death of his father.

Mrs. Cooper gave a hop Saturday evening in honor of her guests, the Misses Stuart, Thomas and Ramsay. The first class was invited. Cadet Pratt and Mrs. Cooper received. There was a cadet hop Dec. 31, in the armory. The December examinations have just been finished, and review work for the semi-annual examination begun. Mr. H. S. Kimball, of '96, was visiting Chief Engr. Rae during the last week. Cadet Ralph Earle is expected to visit here after New Years.

The Dolphin has arrived at Jacksonville, Fla., whence she will patrol the Florida coast for the enforcement of the neutrality laws. The Newark is at Port Royal, where she is receiving a supply of coal, and will return to Jacksonville to resume her police duty. The Raleigh is likely to be ordered North to Hampton Roads shortly.

The semi-annual examinations of the Infantry and Cavalry School, Fort Leavenworth, have been in progress this week. They include the departments of infantry, hygiene, cavalry and engineering.

Argentina's torpedo-boat destroyer Entre Rios has just reached Buenos Ayres from England, having made the run from the island of St. Vincent, a distance of 3,700 miles, without putting into port for coal. The Entre Rios crossed the Atlantic in stormy weather and proved herself a first-rate sea boat.

The foundering of the French torpedo boat No. 83 off Cape de la Chevre occurred during maneuvers, when boat No. 61 ran into the starboard quarter of the vessel, which filled and sank within a few minutes. A stoker was drowned and three other men severely injured, and the survivors were picked up by a sailing vessel. The boat belonged to the thirty-five meter class, which has been a good deal discredited in the French Navy. She sank in fifteen fathoms of water.

Thirty-one armor-plates, weighing on an average 15 tons each, were put into the battleship Caesar at Portsmouth, England, during the period elapsing between Monday morning and Saturday noon. During the construction of the Prince George, at Portsmouth, twenty of her side armor-plates were placed in position in one week.

The decrease in the Italian Naval estimates of 1897-98 has compelled the abandonment of the programme for new vessels, and the fleet falls short of the standard by not less than eighty-nine vessels, of which twenty-eight are battleships and cruisers. Some improvement in the national finances, however, makes it possible to add the sum of 7,000,000 lire to the estimates.

Herr Schichau, the builder of torpedo craft at Elbing, states that the four boats which he is building for the Chinese Navy are not torpedo boats but large destroyers. They are to have engines of 6,000 horse power and a speed of thirty-two knots, and are to be built within thirteen months.

The training ship Alliance, Capt. H. N. Mauney, commanding, left St. Kitts, on the 5th inst., for St. Thomas, to proceed thence to Newport News. She is just concluding a six months cruise in European waters.

Torpedo boat No. 5, the third and last of the torpedo boats under construction for the Navy by the Columbian Iron Works, of Baltimore, was launched at the company's yard on Wednesday. Her total cost will be \$97,500. She is constructed of steel of the regular Navy requirements, is 160 feet long and 16 feet broad, with a displacement of 142 tons. Her armament will consist of three 18-inch Whitehead torpedo tubes on her upper deck, trained to fire at any angle, and three 1-pounder rapid-fire guns. She is estimated to be capable of a speed of 24½ knots per hour. Her machinery comprises two triple expansion, four cylinder engines, one on each side shaft, in water-tight compartments. The indicated horse power is 2,000. Her coal capacity will be forty-four tons. Her crew will consist of twenty-four men, with four officers.

Secretary Herbert has decided to increase the naval corps of inspectors of steel used in the construction of naval vessels of the United States by the appointment of a number of expert civilians. Capt. McCormick and Chief Engr. Smith, of the Norfolk Yard, arrived in Washington on Wednesday to discuss the details preliminary to the appointments. It is thought that the civil service commission will be called on to furnish at once about twelve or fifteen men who, by rigid examination, have proved themselves experts in this line, and when secured they probably will be distributed among the works now furnishing steel and cast-iron used in the construction of our naval vessels.

The Treasury Department has awarded contracts for the construction of three light vessels and two light house tenders. The Bath Iron Works, of Bath, Me., will build two of the light vessels, at \$74,500 each, and one tender, at \$72,000. Lewis Nixon, of Elizabeth, N. J., will build one tender at \$72,000, and Wolf & Zweicker, of Portland, Ore., the other light vessel at \$73,000. One of the tenders, to be named the Mayflower, will be stationed at Boston, and the other, to be named the Mangrove, will have headquarters at Key West, Fla. One of the light vessels will be stationed on Diamond Shoal, N. C.; another at Fire Island, N. Y., and the third on San Francisco bar.

Two additions have been made to the exhibition of models of warships in the corridors of the Navy Department Building, at Washington. These are the models of the battleships Massachusetts and the armored cruiser New York, loaned to the Cramps of Philadelphia some time ago, and by them sent to Tokio, Japan, for exhibition to the Japanese authorities as specimens of naval construction in the United States. It is not unreasonable to suppose that their exhibition had some influence in securing orders by American companies for the construction of two warships for the Japanese Navy.

The silver service for the cruiser Brooklyn, which cost \$88,500 and is made up of 341 pieces, has been on exhibition at the rooms of the Art Association, in Montague street, Brooklyn, N. Y., during the past week.

The third of the series of torpedo boats to be built at the Columbia Iron Works for the United States Government was launched Jan. 6.

The special naval board, consisting of Capt. A. H. McCormick, Chief Engr.; J. A. B. Smith, and Asst. Naval Constr. R. B. Dashiell, which is investigating the quality of steel supplied to the Navy for the construction of battleships, has returned to Washington from its visit to Cramps' Ship Yard, Philadelphia, where an examination was made of the steel furnished by the Carnegie Company for the battleship Arkansas. A number of samples were cut from the plates on hand, but it was not possible to test them in Philadelphia, for lack of the proper appliances. The tests will therefore take place at Norfolk Yard, where the board will meet to continue their work.

The Steel Investigating Board will not go to Pittsburgh to examine the methods of inspection and the inspectors at the Carnegie Works. This is in conformity with a decision of Secretary Herbert. When the proposed steel board is organized it is the intention of the Department to gradually relieve the inspectors at the several steel works until they are replaced by men of long experience.

The Citizens' Committee of Wheeling, W. Va., appointed to arrange for suitable recognition of the new gunboat Wheeling, to be launched in San Francisco in February, met on Dec. 30 and recommended an appropriation of \$500 for a silver punch bowl, besides the appropriation already made for the other pieces of the silver service. The committee also decided to present to the boat a complete outfit of china and cut glass, both the product of Wheeling factories.

"Dear me," exclaimed Santa Claus, ruefully glancing at the penciled scrawl which had just come to him through the mails from a frontier-post, "the children are getting ahead of their elders nowadays!"

"I've got lots of wooden guns and tin horns in my pack, but what the deuce is a benevolent old Christmas elf going to do for a young man who asks for a Krag-Jorgensen rifle and a B-Bat sliding trombone? The Army is demoralizing those youngsters!"—7th Regt. Gazette.

THE LEE-METTFORD BULLET.

"Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette."

Our readers will recollect that on various occasions we have devoted considerable space in our columns to the consideration of the present bullet now in general use. It was conclusively proved—and we have no better testimony than that to be found in Capt. Younghusband's book—that the stopping powers of the Lee-Metford bullet was quite inadequate. The fact was instanced beyond a doubt in the Chitral campaign, where one man, having been pierced by no less than six bullets, was still unchecked in his career. Another, in a border war, mentioned in the work to which we have referred, came rushing on, cleft the head of an officer, and then fell dead beside him from the bullet wounds received in his wild career to the front. Col. Fosberry, than whom there is no better authority on the bullet, in a lecture of great interest at the R. U. S. I., urged some little time back the necessity for a complete change in the form of the bullet, and, indeed, brought to us a complete set of models, in which the comparative stopping force of the present and the suggested bullet was well demonstrated. Thus, when fired into a block of wood, the official pattern bullet made a small clean hole, while the bullet approved by the Colonel gathered the debris in front of it, and causing thereby a terrible puncture. And now at last these experiments appear to have weighed on the officials in India, who have learned by experience in Chitral and elsewhere that the rank and file were absolutely lacking confidence in their weapon, which in numerous cases had entirely failed to stop where it had hit, even in vital parts. Nothing could be more demoralizing than such an impression among the majority of our men. We send out a few well-trained soldiers against a horde of semi-savage tribesmen, whose courage is unquestionable, and the reliance we place upon that training, as well as upon the superior weapons, justifies the disparity in numbers. But judge of the disastrous effect that would follow on the sudden perception that the dose of lead which half a dozen rifles, discharged into a single hillman, was unable to prevent him from reaching the lines and achieving his purpose.

Against this the Indian Government officials have diligently labored during the present year, and eventually Capt. Bertie Clay, R. A., superintendent of the Dum Dum Ammunition Factory, has invented a bullet which has given satisfactory results in every way. The difficulties to be encountered will be appreciated by every man who has had experience in one or more of the various types of firearms used in sport or in war. Now, the sporting bullet, while having immense "stopping" advantage, has not the same ranging power, and this was a problem, which, by the accounts recently received from Calcutta, the new bullet successfully solves. Necessarily there is less penetrating power at hard substances, but this is immaterial if the wound inflicted is a severe one, which, if the reports of tests are to be believed, is undoubted; and at the same time it is claimed for the new bullet that it gives better shooting at 1,000 yards than the existing service bullet.

A large lecture was delivered by Col. Hill, Assistant Adjutant-General for Musketry, in the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, and all the soldiers in camp attended. The lecturer explained the principle on which the new bullet was constructed, the metal covering at the point being made thin and the lead core slightly exposed, the result being that the bullet "set up" on striking any object, while its flight through the air was not interfered with. He closed his lecture by saying: "From experiments which I have personally conducted at animate and inanimate objects, I do not hesitate to aver that I would rather be hit by two Martini-Henry bullets than by one of these bullets. I know the bullet to be a very accurate military bullet, and I think it a very efficient sporting bullet for all game from elephants to raven deer. In short, I regard the rifle with the modified bullet as the most efficient and deadly weapon that any one could desire with which to meet his enemy, whether man or beast, and I consider that, armed with them, the British soldier will have in his hands the best rifle and the most efficient bullet in the world."

In subsequent experiments, what Col. Fosberry in his lecture termed the "explosive force" was fully demonstrated, the exit holes of the new bullet being much longer than those of the service bullet, owing to the fact that the former "mushroomed" to separation of the nickel shell from the lead. In the result, the superiority of the new projectile was conclusively proved, and it is hoped that, by its general adoption, the confidence lost in recent campaigns may be regained, and that the men may recognize that in the Lee-Metford they have a thoroughly reliable weapon.

ARCTIC REMINISCENCES.

Adml. Sir R. Vesey Hamilton, G. C. B., gives some excellent "Arctic Reminiscences" in the "Navy and Army Illustrated." The greatest of Arctic traveling was, the Admiral tells us, by Lieut. Meham, who in 1854 was sent to look for traces of the Enterprise, which was absent 70 days, 63 of them marching days, during which his party marched, dragging a sledge, with an average 130 or 140 lb. a man on it, at an average of 21 miles a day, while for one week, traveling as light as possible—100 lbs. a man at least—28 miles a day was their performance. Admiral Hamilton says:

"A few words on the manner in which our sledge parties were pushed out may not be uninteresting to the general reader. A party of eight men could drag 40 days' provisions on a sledge, which meant that they could march about 24 days from the ship, returning with the lightened sledge in 16 days. With two sledges they would proceed about 12 days out; one sledge would then fill up the other with the 12 days' food it had expended, and would leave on the spot a depot of 8 days' provisions for its return. There would then remain 8 days' consumption for the return of the first sledge to the ship. Consequently the other could travel 36 days from the ship, returning in 24. By this method, with three sledges, they would proceed in company 10 or 11 days, the provisions expended by the two leaders being replaced from the depot sledge, which returned to the ship at once to bring out depots for the return of the other sledges. These two would proceed as in the first case, by which means the leader was enabled to travel 46 or 47 days from the ship, and by using more sledges the 105 days of McClintock and 95 of Meham were achieved. As to steamers not withstanding pressure, I well remember that the Intrepid was driven by the moving pack 40 feet up the sloping side of an iceberg, on which she remained perched for 22 hours, coming partly down

two or three times as the pressure of the pack eased off, and going up again when it came on. Our great difficulty was to keep out huge masses of ice that would have broken in our deck had they tumbled inboard. But eventually we came down, when the pressure of the floor ice finally eased off, as quietly and smoothly as if we had been lowered down with a tackle by hand. We then saw our consort, the Pioneer, nine or ten miles distant, she having, as we afterwards ascertained, been helplessly beset in the pack. From the top of our iceberg we counted over 800 others, and, although separated only by a short interval, we were a week before we again joined our consort. Nothing but steam could have extricated us from the closely packed ice.

"Preparing for private theatricals, penny gaffs, lectures, etc., diversions all instituted by Parry 30 years before, occupied our leisure, and the press was represented by the "Aurora Borealis" and the "Illustrated Arctic News," and eventually by some other rather scurrilous papers which had to be suppressed. Very popular was the evening school. Our gunner's mate shared the usual fate of those in advance of their age. Having studied navigation he understood the meaning of "variation," as deviation of the compass was then called. On one occasion I was with a party that went nearly due south from the ships, but we were where the variation of the compass was nearly 180 degrees. After we had been out some days the petty officer of our sledge, a real salt of the old school, said to the gunner's mate, "Why, Armstrong, I thought you was a-traveling South, and here we are a-going North." The gunner's mate tried to explain variation; but all he could get out of the old salt was, "I don't know nothing about your variation; all I knows is the compass says we is a-going North." I declined to arbitrate, and left them to fight it out, and very amusing it was, for the remainder of the crew sided with the old salt against modern science.

One day the pair lost themselves in a storm, and the old salt described their adventures. "Says I to Armstrong, says I, here we are adrift in the middle of a desert island, and you cannot find your way back to the tent. What the — is the use of your — variation now?" When the universal roar had subsided, I explained that the gunner's mate, not having a compass with him, could not turn his scientific knowledge to a practical use; but he was right as to our traveling South.

PROMOTE ACCORDING TO MERIT.

To the Editor of the "Army and Navy Journal":

Among the bills now before Congress for the improvement of the Army, there is one (S. 2,420), to increase the pay of non-commissioned officers. The objects of this bill are two-fold; first, to make the intelligent men of the Army ambitious to learn their duties thoroughly, so as to merit promotion; secondly, to induce men of higher education to enlist by the offer of increased remuneration. No doubt both objects would be attained if promotion were given according to merit; but such is not the case, as 50 per cent. of the men who are made N. C. O's, have some personal influence with their 1st Sergeants or Battery Commanders outside of their own qualifications. In artillery regiments there are examinations held annually to test the proficiency of the men in all the branches of gunnery.

When a vacancy occurs in a Battery for a N. C. O. it is a common occurrence that a man who at those examinations has passed third class, or has not passed at all, is promoted over the heads of those who have passed first class, and whose characters are equally good. It is the ridiculous duty of such men when N. C. O. to instruct those who have passed 30 or 40 per cent. higher than they did.

Therefore, any increase of pay, although it would only be justly rewarding those who were promoted on their merits, would also be rewarding those who are promoted for other causes, and would only make intelligent privates more thoroughly disgusted with a service where sycophancy and stupidity are as often rewarded as intelligence and industry.

COST OF ARMOR PLATE.

Jan. 5, 1897.

The Secretary to-day sent in his report to Congress on the subject of armor plate. Under the act making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June 30, 1897, Congress directed the Secretary to examine into the actual cost of armor plate and the price for the same which should be eventually paid. The report of the Secretary sets forth at great length the methods and results of his investigation, which was conducted by himself personally, with Capt. W. T. Sampson, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance, and Chief Constructor Philip Hichborn, Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, as advisors.

Immediately after the passage of the act the Secretary called on the contracting companies, the Bethlehem Iron Company, of South Bethlehem, Pa., and the Carnegie Steel Company, Limited, of Pittsburg, Pa., requesting that they aid him with the necessary information to enable him to perform the duties imposed upon him by the Congress. The two companies declined to give information, upon the ground that it was very unusual for Congress to inquire into the business of private corporations. They, however, in October, made statements as to the cost of their plants, and furnished suggestions to the Secretary as to the methods which should be adopted by him in estimating the cost of armor and of their investments in the armor plants.

The Secretary called together a board, composed of Lieuts. Karl Rohrer, Kossuth Niles and A. A. Ackerman. The result of their calculations showed that the cost of labor and material in a ton of single forged Harveyized nickel steel armor was \$167.30. Other officers also reported on the cost of Harveyized nickel steel armor. Lieut. Comdr. Rodgers fixed it at \$178.59, and Ensign C. B. McVay at \$161.54. To these estimates 10 per cent. is added for cost of rejection.

The Secretary in making his calculations says in order "to be just to both the manufacturers and the Government," took an average of the estimates, which is \$184.38 for single forged and \$197.78 for re-forged armor in making the calculations contained in the report.

Shortly after the passage of the act letters were written to the Naval Attache at London and the Naval Attache at Paris, instructing them to secure additional information as to the price paid for armor to European manufacturers and as to the cost of establishing armor plants like those possessed by the two American companies.

The question of the cost of establishing an armor plant being a material one, the Secretary personally visited Europe during the past summer for the purpose

of prosecuting inquiries in this direction, and also to make further inquiries as to the prices of armor. While abroad he visited a number of armor plants and machine shops and secured two estimates, one made in France and the other in England, of the cost of erecting armor plants. The French estimate was for the erection of an armor plant at Guerigny, and was made by the French Government for the purpose of ascertaining the cost to erect an armor plant in connection with the works of the Government already at that place. This estimate made by the Government of France for the erection in connection with its plant now making protective decks and equipment supplies is \$700,000, and for higher priced labor in building houses and in installing plant an efficient armor plant based on the French figures could be erected in this country for \$1,400,000.

The English estimate is made by a company of experience and reputation, and which is prepared to furnish the plant, puts the cost at \$113,400. This estimate was referred to the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance to be completed by adding the estimated cost of duties, buildings, installation, etc., and other items deemed necessary to make it equal the American plants. As thus completed the estimate for putting up a plant equal to that of the Carnegie Company, said to have cost \$3,000,000, could now be erected for \$1,590,000.

The Secretary sets forth at some length the fact that the Bethlehem Company being the first to erect an armor plant in this country necessarily made a number of costly experiments, chief among which was the erection of a hammer, said to have cost between \$400,000 and \$700,000. He therefore has allowed the Bethlehem Company in his calculations \$1,000,000 more as the cost of their plant than is allowed the Carnegie Company. He estimates on the basis of the English plant, with additions by Capt. Sampson, \$1,590,000, and allowing for the difference in prices between the present time and 1890, when the Carnegie Company's plant was erected, his estimate would be that the Carnegies should be allowed \$2,500,000 for their plant. As the plant of the Bethlehem, owing to their costly experiments, cost considerably more, he makes additional allowance to them of \$1,000,000, and his estimate would be that their plant cost \$3,500,000. But he takes the statements of the companies as showing what the plant costs.

The Secretary, upon his return from Europe, sent an officer to Harrisburg, Pa., where search was instituted for returns made by the two contracting companies to the Auditor-General of the State under an act of the Pennsylvania Legislature of 1889. He succeeded in securing copies of the returns from the Bethlehem Company, showing their capital authorized, capital paid in and dividends from 1889 to Nov. 1, 1895, inclusive. This information was supplemented after request by the Secretary by the Bethlehem Iron Company and by additional information secured from the Red Book of Pennsylvania, so that the Secretary had at hand the statements of the Bethlehem Company as to their gross receipts, net receipts, dividends paid and surplus from 1889 to 1896 inclusive. This information was all from the company itself and therefore most important, and from it the Secretary prepared a statement showing that whatever may have been the cost of the armor plant and the gun plant, whatever may have been paid for the secrets of manufacture or for patents, or whatever may have been interest on working capital, all those and other charges have been paid from the gross earnings of the company, and the results show the company's investments in plant to make armor and gun steel for the Government have been returned with 22 per cent. thereon.

The Secretary states in another form the account of the Bethlehem Company with the Government as a profit and loss account, based on the reports to the Auditor-General of Pennsylvania, which are from the company's statements from Nov. 1, 1889, to Nov. 1, 1896, in the following manner:

Net earnings, 1889 to 1896, inclusive..... \$6,769,553.95

DEDUCTIONS.

Interest on original capital stock of \$2,000,000 for 8 years, at 10 per cent. per annum	\$1,600,000.00
Repayment capital added in 1889	613,200.00
Interest on same at 10 per cent. for 7 years	429,240.00
Repayment capital added in 1890	231,850.00
Interest on same at 10 per cent. for 6 years	139,110.00
Repayment capital added in 1891	1,154,950.00
Interest on same at 10 per cent. for 5 years	577,475.00
Repayment bonds shown on report for 1895	1,351,000.00
	6,096,825.00

Balance of profit, 1889 to 1896, inclusive. 672,728.95

This allows dividends annually on \$2,000,000 at the rate of 10 per cent. for eight years; it repays the \$2,000,000 paid in, with 10 per cent. from the dates when the capital was subscribed; it pays the bonds shown on the report for 1895 and leaves a profit from 1889 to 1896, inclusive, of \$672,728.95 to put to the credit of the gun and armor plants, in addition to the 10 per cent. already allowed on new stock.

The returns by the Carnegie Company, however, were so indefinite as to be practically of no value, and it was necessary for the Secretary to resort to the best evidence obtainable for the purpose of showing:

1. The value of its plant.
2. The price of labor and material entering into a ton of armor.
3. The amount that should be allowed the company for maintenance, and the amount of the plant upon which maintenance should be allowed, and the account of the Carnegie Company with the Government is stated in several ways, in one table allowing a valuation of \$3,000,000 for the plant, another at \$2,500,000 and a third at \$2,000,000. On a \$3,000,000 valuation of the plant allowing 5 per cent. for the maintenance and 5 per cent. on a working capital of \$750,000, the rates claimed by the company, and allowing a dividend to the company of 10 per cent. per annum on outstanding capital, the Secretary shows that the entire cost of the plant is practically extinguished upon the completion of existing contracts.

Assuming the cost of the plant at \$2,000,000 and allowing 10 per cent. thereon for maintenance, insurance, etc., and 5 per cent. interest on working capital and allowing 10½ per cent. dividend on outstanding capital invested in plant, applying the surplus of net earnings after deducting dividends for each period of six months to the extinguishment of cost of plant, the Secretary shows the Carnegie Company will have been, on the first day of July, 1897, repaid every dollar it claims to have expended on its plant, and after the allowance noted above will have made a profit on its investment.

to the time when that investment was extinguished by the repayment of the money of 15 per cent.

The statute under which the report of the Secretary is made requires a report, not only as to what is the actual cost of manufacturing armor, but also what sum ought equitably to be paid for armor hereafter. In dealing with this question, the Secretary sets forth fully the risk involved by these companies, when their plants were erected, of having work for only a short time, and that, for many reasons, their profits were necessarily expected to be large. He also shows that the Government having really created these plants ought to perpetuate them, as such industries are necessary in order to enable this country to be independent in the important matter of public defense. He is of the opinion that the Government should pay for armor, in the future, a price sufficiently liberal to justify the contractors in keeping their plants in order ready at all times to manufacture armor when occasion requires. No ordinary profit, considering the great expense of maintaining the plants and the uncertainty of future orders, will be sufficient, but the Secretary shows that these companies have been reimbursed for their original investment and allowed handsome profits besides. The original cost of armor plants is not to be allowed, for in the future a maintenance is to be allowed, not on the basis of their original investment, but on the values of the plants, and these plants could now be erected, as has been heretofore shown, for \$1,500,000.

Assuming therefore the present value of the plants to be \$1,500,000, and allowing 10 per cent, or \$150,000 per annum for maintenance, the Secretary makes the calculation on the basis of 2,500 tons of armor being manufactured per annum, which adds \$60 per ton to the price of labor and material, making in round numbers \$256. If 3,000 tons are manufactured, the price of each ton would be ascertained by adding \$50 for maintenance to the \$196, cost of labor and material, making in round numbers \$250 as the cost of a ton of armor.

The Secretary concludes that in view of all the circumstances regarding the uncertainty of future contracts, it would not be inequitable to allow the contractor 50 per cent. profit upon the cost of manufacturing armor for the three ships now under contract, adding 50 per cent. to \$250, gives \$375, but the Secretary recommends that as the nickel is now furnished by the Government, which makes an addition of \$20 per ton in the price of armor, it would be better in the future to have the contractors furnish this material, which would bring the price up to \$395 per ton, and allowing something for keeping nickel on hand, he suggests that \$400 per ton would be a fair and equitable price to pay for the armor for the Wisconsin, Alabama and Illinois.

The Secretary ends his report by a recommendation that Congress give the Secretary of the Navy power to erect or buy an armor and gun plant should the contractors not be willing to accept the price for armor, which the Congress, in its discretion may enact, shall be paid in the future.

SAN JUAN DE ULLOA IN 1846.

(Note on "Life and Letters of Admiral Farragut.")

It appears from the above book, issued by the Messrs. Appleton & Co., in 1882, that our illustrious first Admiral entertained the opinion that Castle of San Juan de Ulloa was in the same weak and invulnerable condition in the years of our war (1846-47) as in 1838, when it surrendered to the French.

Perhaps the Admiral never saw the direct evidence to the contrary (given at end), or, if he did, we blinded to the force by the effect of pique and mortification, resulting from his opinions and views regarding the Castle being set aside, and, as he thought, slighted by the Navy Department—an irritated condition which was aggravated by incurring the displeasure of his commanding officers, Commodore Perry, followed by that of the department for having remonstrated against the former, in a tact impolitic, but natural. ("Life," pages 157-165.)

It is well known that nothing is more apt to warp the judgment and to fix one in prejudices than chagrin and mortification, and it is under these circumstances that we find Farragut, then but a commander in rank, writing thus in his journal for the year 1847:

"It (to attack San Juan de Ulloa) was all we could do, and should have been done at all hazards. Commodore Conner thought differently, however, and the old officers at home backed his opinions; but they all paid the penalty—not one of them will ever wear an Admiral's flag, which they might have done, if the castle had been taken by the Navy, which must have been the result of an attack." (page 158). To this is attached the following note, evidently by author or editor:

"There is something noteworthy in these words, uttered thirty years ago. Farragut thought, with many other intelligent friends of the Navy, that the rank of admiral should exist in our service, and always believed that some signal success or brilliant achievement by the Navy would favor the creation of that grade. Hence he bluntly expressed dissatisfaction at the opportunity thrown away, as he regarded it, by the failure to attack the castle of San Juan de Ulloa. How his faith was justified, the subsequent events of our civil war illustrate."

Now, if by the expression, "his faith was justified, the subsequent events of our civil war illustrate," it is meant that those events prove that he was right in presuming that the grade of Admiral was to be gained by brilliant deeds, the assertion is most proper—perfectly correct; but if on the contrary it is meant that any of the deeds of Admiral Farragut during our civil war prove the correctness of his opinion regarding San Juan de Ulloa, that it certainly could be taken, so late as 1846 or '67, by any mere naval force which the United States had been to send against it, the conclusion is groundless, because based upon false analogy. The mere naval attack on San Juan, had it taken place, would have been direct, deliberate bombardment. Admiral Farragut's deeds, brilliant and great as they were, belong to a different class of naval actions; namely, passage of forts. It is proper to compare like to like, but improper to compare unlike to unlike; that is, if we desire not merely to contrast differences, but to gain an idea of what might have been a possible result from the contemplation of an actual one.

In Very's "Navies of the World" will be found a list of naval actions classified under their respective heads, as, for instance, bombardments, assaults, passages of forts, etc., so that those ignorant of the marked distinctions and the various forms of naval attack may learn to understand the differences which exist among them. My statements are based on the following authorities: Reference to "Recorded Proof of the Increase of Armament and Ultimate Impregnability of San Juan de Ulloa in 1845 and 1846, during our War with Mexico;" Semmes's "Service Afloat and Ashore During the Mexican War," first edition, 1851, page 106. Semmes saw the castle from personal inspection, so his account

of its formidable strength in 1846, '47 must have been based on the proof of actual sight and touch, both before and immediately after it fell into our hands. Frost's "History of Mexico," ed. 1882, page 468; Gen. Scott's "Autobiography," Vol. II., pages 421, 422; Commodore Conner's dispatch to the Secretary of the Navy of July 27, 1845, and Sept. 3 and 11, same year, inclosing plan of San Juan de Ulloa, showing then mounted 261 cannon and 12 mortars. This plan the Commodore received from a confidential source (his secret agent in Vera Cruz), and he says that it is verified in part by his own observations; that is, so far as the castle was open to his vision, and he was before it for three years, his eyes corroborated the showing of the plan. Reports to Commodore Conner on the condition of San Juan de Ulloa, in 1845 (autumn), from Commander McCluney and Lieut. James S. Biddle; officers dispatched by the Commodore to Vera Cruz in quest of information on the subject of the castle's condition. The said reports are embodied in the dispatches of Commodore Conner to the Secretary of the Navy referred to above. Gen. Scott: General orders, March 30, 1847, Exec. Doc. for 1847, '48, Vol. 2, page 239; corroborative of same, Scott to Secretary of War, April 5, 1847, Exec. Doc., Vol. 7, page 911, A. D. 1847, '48. "National Intelligencer," Washington, Oct. 1, 1845: Letter from Lieut. James S. Biddle stating that, while lately at Vera Cruz, he saw the reparation of San Juan de Ulloa and the mounting of cannon still going on; met the Engineer Officer in charge of that work (who was doing like work on the castle's supporting forts on the main land—Concepcion and Santiago), and bought from him the model of the castle, deposited at the War Department in Washington, showing the castle's strength and force at that time, and showing them correctly as affirmed by Gen. Totten (Scott's Chief of Engineers at the siege) after the fall of the castle and upon comparing its actual self with the model. Commander Joseph R. Jarvis, of the Falmouth, U. S. N., in a letter dated "Off Vera Cruz, May 9, 1846," informs Commodore Conner that the Mexicans "still town's defenses. Opinions of officers inspecting the castle of San Juan de Ulloa after its surrender in March, 1847. Lieut. James S. Biddle in a letter to me, Jan. 25, 1884, quoting from one to Mrs. Biddle, dated on the day of the castle's surrender, and just after visiting it, March 29, 1846: "It is the work of immense massiveness, exceeding by very much anything I had imagined. I have seen the famous fortifications at Havana, but these are on a much grander scale." Further, in conversation, Mr. Biddle informed me that while at the castle he saw no sign of weakness in it, moreover, the guns were numerous, large and well mounted. Commodore Perry and the British naval officers, visiting the castle in company with him, concur in the opinion that if well defended it could defy the fleets of the world. Gen. Scott's official reports to his Government, affirming the impregnability of San Juan, as shown by its inspection after capture, are referred to above under head of "General Orders." For his personal confirmation of this fact see his "Autobiography," while the report of the Secretary of War and other like official documents reaffirm these confirmations. Philadelphia, Jan. 6, 1897. P. S. P. CONNER.

Lieut. Emanuel Ramos, who went to Cuba from New York in charge of a dynamite gun, says of it:

"The gun in the hands of a good gunner does effective work at the distance of a mile, though its best range is half a mile, and it has perfect certainty of aim. At any distance, however, the explosion of the projectile destroys life within a radius of a hundred yards or more. The first battle after it landed in Cuba was between a Spanish force of two columns and an insurrectionary force of about the same strength. Both occupied positions on hilltops, the intervening valley being about a quarter of a mile wide. The Spaniards were erecting breastworks and the dynamite gun was trained on them. Maceo fired the first shot personally, but the aim was too low, and the projectile struck the side of the hill, the explosion tearing a large hole in the earth, but injuring no one. The muzzle was raised and a second shot fired, which landed in the midst of the Spaniards. It killed thirty of them, destroyed their breastworks, and shattered their two cannons. The Spaniards fled. Another battle took place the following day at a place twenty-one miles distant, and in heavy rain which lasted the entire day. The gun was fired five times in this engagement. We saw trees felled and bodies torn limb from limb, and when the Spaniards retreated, leaving their arms and ammunition, we went to the spots where the shots had struck, and found them entirely bare of all vegetation. Finally, the gun was used at the battle of Guayabita, which lasted thirty-nine hours. The Spaniards were 12,000 strong and the Cubans 5,000. The fighting was terrific. The Cubans were almost defeated, when the dynamite arrived. It was taken from one part of the field to another. Only seven shots were fired, but each one was most effective. The projectiles killed over 150 of the Spaniards and scattered the survivors and ended the battle in the Cubans' favor."

The Admiralty, we understand, are about to make a series of experiments with a new 6-inch quick-firing gun, which, instead of being of 40 calibers, will be of 45 calibers, the length, therefore, being about 24 feet instead of 20 feet, as with the existing gun. Of course, it will be wire-wound. The idea is to secure a higher velocity and striking energy for the 100-pound projectile which is fired; for, as is well-known, these properties are now obtained by the expansion of the explosive gases propelling the projectile, so that the greater the length of the bore the longer time will the gases have to increase the velocity. The same result, of course, might be attained by a heavier charge of powder and a higher initial pressure, for the limit has by no means been reached in this direction. But it is wise not to overdo the pressure, since it reduces the factor of safety and at the same time shortens the life of the gun, which is but a brief span even under present conditions. The 6-inch quick-firer now in use is 7 tons in weight, and with 13 pounds of cordite gives a muzzle velocity of 2,200 feet per second and an energy at the muzzle of 3,356 foot tons, equal to 479 foot tons per ton of gun. The penetration at the muzzle, it is expected, will be increased to 19 inches through wrought iron, while with the existing gun it is 16 inches; at 2,000 yards range the penetration to the great length, because it increases the probability of injury from an enemy's fire, it may be added that some of the Elswick 6-inch guns are of 50 calibers, as compared with the 45 of the new British gun; while the 8-inch guns are about 27 feet long, as compared with 24 feet. Some of the French quick-firers, designed by Canet, are 31½ feet long, so that on this score we are not going so far as our neighbors.—United Service Gazette.

Mother—Ella, you have been playing all the afternoon with these toy soldiers. That's not a proper amusement for a big girl like you.

Daughter—But, mamma, I am not playing with the soldiers. I picked out the officers and played with them.

THE STATE TROOPS.

A FAITHFUL INSPECTOR GENERAL.

How the State of New York Treats a Man Who Has Done His Duty.

Brig Gen. Frederick C. McLewee, late Inspector General, on the staff of Governor Morton, of New York, is one of the most efficient officers in the National Guard service. He is conscientious, independent, and fearless—all excellent qualities for an Inspector General to have. The only objection that can be made to him, so far as we have been able to discover, is that he was out of place on the staff of the amiable gentleman, lately presiding over the destinies of New York, who seems to have had no just appreciation of military men or military measures. The criticisms contained in the last annual report of General McLewee, appear to have excited much bitterness of feeling in the breast of the Governor, if we may judge from the order he issued on the last day of his administration, summarily removing General McLewee from office. This was a most unhandsome act on the part of the Governor, and those who advised him to it advised him very badly.

Freedom and fearlessness of criticism is not a fault in an Inspector General; certainly not one for which he should be rebuked by the superior to whom he makes his report. The Adjutant General, and the other officers of the Governor's staff are as much the subject of the Inspector General's criticisms, when they deserve them, as any other officers. The United States Army Regulations say: "The sphere of inquiry of the Inspector General's Department includes every branch of military affairs except when specially limited in these regulations or in orders." "Inspectors General and Acting Inspectors General are under the orders of the Secretary of War and the Commanding General of the Army only." Following this precedent, the Military Code of the State of New York places the Inspector General under the orders of the Commander-in-Chief directly. We fail, therefore, to see in what respect General McLewee has made himself amenable to discipline, simply because his sharp criticisms have disturbed the gentlemen who flourish in military uniforms, without the slightest idea of military duty, or any serious intention of performing it, where it interferes with their comfort, or their disposition to enjoy the pleasures of life. To show the nature of the Inspector General's criticism we give some extracts from his report here. If it be true as stated that this report is to be suppressed, it is well that some record should be made of its salient portions. Its keynote is found in the following extract from Gen. Lord Wolseley, with which the report concludes:

"An inefficient officer is a swindle upon the public. If an officer finds that his knowledge and ability to command are not equal to his rank, he should spare no pains to learn his work, and if after diligent study and application he finds that he cannot acquire the necessary knowledge and ability to command, and still retains his rank, he willingly becomes a sharer in the swindle."

It will be observed, from what follows, that the criticisms are not personal, and that they are within the reserve proper to such documents. That they should have led to such results is due simply to a very bad case of guilty conscience. What seems to have given chief offense at Albany is the following criticism:

"While the Military Code expressly states that the Inspector General alone is authorized to condemn property, there have been cases where officers have been relieved from responsibility therefor without the knowledge of the Inspector General; and few requisitions for property have been referred to him for his recommendation during the past two years."

"Under the provisions of R. 61, it becomes my duty to report various violations of the Military Code and the regulations that have come under my observation during the current year."

"While M. C., 258, specifically states for what purposes armories can be used, I have learned that the one located at Poughkeepsie was given over to religious uses for about 10 days this year to the exclusion of the companies quartered therein for military purposes, and that one of these companies was obliged to drill on the street in consequence. It is claimed that permission for such religious use was obtained from General Headquarters, but inasmuch as the laws of the State forbid so doing, I am at a loss to understand how it could be. Permission was sought of the commanding officer of an armory located in another town for the same purpose, but refused on the ground that it was illegal, and the argument was used that such use had been granted at Poughkeepsie."

"The permission given the 23d and 71st Regiments to discard the State service uniforms is a violation of the law that is serious to contemplate, and one that cannot be overlooked by any interpretation thereof. The work of years devoted to bringing the National Guard to a state of uniformity in matters of dress and equipment seems about to be lost by this violation of the Military Code, and the ultimate result will be, if this policy be continued, to find the National Guard where it was more than fifteen years ago, and when ordered on duty by the Commander-in-Chief, as prescribed in M. C., 104, it will present an incongruous, unsatisfactory appearance. While I favor the adoption of distinctive uniforms for organizations under the conditions prescribed by law, I deem it a serious matter, and one affecting the best interests of the Guard, to permit the discarding of the prescribed uniform of the State by any organization that has once accepted it."

"The wearing of unauthorized medals is a violation of regulations that seems to be little heeded by officers who, apparently, do not correct their men in this matter, and when officers of high rank transgress in this particular it is not to be wondered at that others follow

their example. Both the old and the new patterns of marksman's decorations are sometimes worn, although the issue of the latter rendered obsolete the former; regimental, veteran association and company pins are worn, and other unauthorized decorations to an amazing degree. While but three decorations are permissible on the undress coat all kinds are seen. This regulation was made to be observed like all others, else it should be eliminated from the book.

"One of the most serious violations of the law," says the General, "and one that involved many thousands of dollars, was that of relieving officers from responsibility of public property last year without the action of a board of survey or of the Inspector General, which is required by M. C., 34, and R. 242-248. Violations of the regulations on the part of officers in matters of uniform and equipment are frequent, and this extends to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, who should, above all others, set an example in this respect. It is not alone that gilt stripes on the riding trousers are unauthorized, but lack of uniformity in dress is common on occasions of public ceremony, which has a tendency to make the Governor's staff the subject of unfavorable comment and ridicule. Other violations of the Military Code and regulations were noticed at the camp for instruction, but for obvious reasons it is as well not to mention them here." We learn from other sources that State property to the amount of \$150,000 was thus improperly disposed of.

Every officer of the National Guard knows that this criticism is not only well deserved, but was greatly needed. So far from removing his Inspector General for making it, the Governor should have sent for General McLewee and publicly thanked him in the presence of the Adjutant General. To remove him for such criticisms is a pitiful display of spite. As the Governor can hardly be suspected of such an emotion in this case he must have been prompted to his action by some one else. Those who were disturbed by General McLewee's frankness would have done much better if they had accepted this advice that is given in another part of the report:

"A more loyal spirit should animate those officers who have demonstrated their inability to fulfill the obligations they assumed when they accepted their commissions, and they should unhesitatingly resign and make way for others who can and will keep pace with the march of improvement. They should do this not alone as a matter of justice to the State and to their respective organizations, but to themselves as well, for as soon as an officer begins to retrograde just so soon does his command show the effects of his weakness, and it should not be necessary to have to intimate to him that his duty in the matter is plain."

That General McLewee knows a good officer when he sees him is indicated by the following extracts:

"In the selection of an Army officer for duty with our troops, experience has proven that those from the infantry arm of the service are of greater benefit to us than any others, and as the great preponderance of our troops is of that branch it is easy to see why it should be so. An Army officer who takes an interest in his duty in this State can accomplish an immense amount of good, as was shown in the case of Capt. Edwin E. Hardin, 7th U. S. Inf., whose labors for several years are still gratefully remembered and appreciated; and it is unfortunate that this department and the service generally were deprived of the benefit of a continuance of his able work with the different organizations both at their home stations and the camp of instruction. This officer not alone performed his duty in a masterly manner, but won the respect and affection of the troops at the same time; and it is a subject of universal regret that he was obliged to sever his connection with the National Guard of New York; and this department feels the loss most keenly as the character of his work was in line with that of Colonel Greene, Assistant Inspector General, which is so necessary to the improvement of the service.

"In addition to the regular headquarters staff there was also on duty this year, Col. Robert H. Hall, 4th United States Infantry, who was detailed by the War Department to report on the work performed at the camp. Colonel Hall was on similar duty during the camp of 1893, and this year renewed many friendships formed at that time, and added to them those of all with whom he came in contact. He was tireless in his efforts to assist, and his timely and valuable suggestions, always so considerably and pleasantly made, were important factors in directing the energies of others in the right direction.

"Major Burbank, U. S. A., was also in camp."

Concerning the march of batteries of Light Artillery last summer, General McLewee says:

"Accompanying the batteries was Light Battery K, 1st U. S. Art., Capt. John W. Dillenback. This battery has been in camp with our troops on previous occasions, and has always been a source of valuable instruction to our artillery force—like Troop F to our Troop C—and why the means of instruction at hand were not made use of as on former occasions is incomprehensible. Under the circumstances the presence of this battery was a useless and heavy expense to the State without any recompense in the way of instruction, either theoretical or practical. For this Captain Dillenback and his officers are in no way to blame, as they were not only ready but desirous of following the plan that governed their previous service at the post, and which they fully expected to be called upon to do. It surely could not have been believed that our batteries did not need the valuable services of such eminent officers as are these professional soldiers, for while they work showed improvement during the week, there can be no doubt that under the systematic and thorough course of theoretical instruction augmented by careful supervision on the drill field that prevailed with the infantry and cavalry arms of the service while in camp, the artillery would have made still greater strides toward betterment with Capt. Dillenback and his officers as instructors and inspectors."

Col. G. B. Agnew, A. D. C., who was detailed to accompany the batteries on their practice march in his report, says, among other things:

"During the whole march a halt was called every hour, lasting for ten minutes. On these halts the National Guard organizations were too apt to crowd up and block the whole road, in marked contrast to the regulars, who showed their superior discipline and kept in column of pieces. On various occasions it was evident that the several batteries had to a great extent been compelled to themselves supply their Quartermaster's stores. For instance, when a halt was called for water, in front of hydrants, two batteries had no wrench. The 3d Battery was obliged to borrow buckets, not being supplied with sufficient quantity. The breaches of discipline and failure in small points of the tactics were of a more serious nature. But these things are being ably handled by the present Chief of Artillery, and it is proper here to add that he is showing himself eminently fitted to cope with the questions peculiar to these organizations."

As an example of the many important military matters neglected by the late administration, General McLewee states to the Army and Navy Journal that he made a special report to the Adjutant General ten

months ago, recommending the disbandment of the 19th Separate Company, which was in a deplorable condition. This recommendation, it is said, was indorsed by Gen. Robt. S. Oliver 3d Brigade, who, it is further said, later called in person at the Adjutant General's Office and personally recommended action. Nothing was ever done about it, and General McLewee states his official recommendation was never even acknowledged. The company in question was inspected March 18 last, and Gen. McLewee's report on it in brief is as follows:

"This company is in a deplorable condition, and the responsibility rests with the Commanding Officer; the men are in no way to blame. This officer looks upon official criticism as a personal affront and an interference with his private affairs; pays no attention to such criticism, and fails to correct the many serious errors which are almost numberless in this organization, and he continues from year to year to manage it in the most autocratic fashion. Headquarters do not judge an officer by his length of service, but by his capabilities, and, therefore, it is more than evident that this officer has long outlived his period of usefulness in the National Guard, and the State would be much benefited by his resignation, which if not promptly forthcoming, it would be well to disband the company, as under present conditions it is of no use to the State, but, to the contrary, a great and useless expense and a menace to good discipline."

OTHER MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT.

The total strength of the guard, which is 13,423, is divided as follows: Infantry, 12,110; cavalry, 260; signal corps, 155; artillery, 402; general and brigade staffs and assistants, 85. The tables of inspection show the percentage this year in general to be 97.13, the best in the history of the State. Sixty-eight companies paraded 100 per cent, and thirty-five organizations had but one man absent.

The Inspector General personally inspected all the troops in the State, with the exception of the 2d Separate Company of Auburn. Condition of armories, generally excellent. It is recommended that the law be amended so that an armory employee cannot be a member of the guard while holding such position. A marked improvement in dressing lockers is noted. Several counties have neglected to meet their obligations to provide properly for the troops within their borders. Improvement is shown in the care of arms, uniforms and equipments, but several regiments were at fault in this.

It is recommended that the present Remington rifles be retained in the event of a new rifle of small caliber being adopted, and that they be altered to smooth bores, so that buckshot cartridges could be used in riot duty, which would prevent the killing of innocent people far from the scene of disorder, as has frequently occurred by high-powered bullets. The revolvers of non-commissioned officers are antiquated and there is no ammunition in the market that can be purchased for them. The discarding of rifles by first sergeants and quartermaster sergeants is condemned as a grave error and contrary to the method pursued in the U. S. Army, "and what is best for the Army," says the General, "ought to be good enough for us." The guard has been departing from uniformity in the matter of the State uniform; there are many styles of make and trimmings of officers' undress coats. Dress coats of mounted men contrary to regulation. Nickel numbers are on many coat collars, instead of gilt as prescribed. Large number of blouses worn out. Campaign hats at camp were frequently decorated with toothpicks, feathers, etc.; thin soled shoes worn by many men. Many belts and equipments fell off men at camp. Cavalry overcoats are recommended for signal corps, and a distinguishing mark for officers' serge blouses, as there is none on the new forage cap, and in future before any changes in uniform be made, it is advocated that a board be appointed, to consist of the Inspector General and one officer from each brigade.

Lack of uniformity in interpreting Drill Regulations, etc., was manifest, and the necessity of some additional assistants in the I. G. D. is noted, and advice as to instruction given. Some officers commissioned are unfit for duty, and one officer, it is said, was placed on a brigade board of examination for the purpose of learning himself. More care should be taken in the selection of non-commissioned officers. Strict attention to armory rifle practice is advised and ammunition should be supplied by General Headquarters.

The keeping of a dismounted post band at camp during artillery week is criticised. Many staff officers are deficient in horsemanship. The policy of ordering so many troops to camp each week is condemned, on account of the limited accommodation and contracted drill field. The sewerage system at camp requires extensive alteration, as much sickness resulted last year. It is recommended that in lieu of expending money on roads, drainage, washouts, etc., a new camp site be procured on the Hudson of 200 acres, which, in the end, it is argued, will cost no more than the cost of improving the present camp and making repairs. It is also recommended that a law be passed compelling the railroad to transport troops at a nominal rate; that blouses be made the same as dress coats; that the State service coat be altered to single-breasted; that the helmet be replaced with a more comfortable one; that ammunition be issued for officers' revolvers; that all armories be provided with target practice; and that the 3d Battery be armed with the 3.2-inch B. L. rifle guns.

In view of the condition of the 5th Battery, of Syracuse, the 19th Sep. Co., of Poughkeepsie, and the 26th Sep. Co., of Elmira, it is recommended they be disbanded at once, as they are far below the standard required, with no hope, apparently, of improvement. There are many other items of interest in the report, including reports from Col. G. J. Greene, Maj. A. W. La Rose, F. R. Lee, Col. H. L. Satterlee and G. B. Agnew. The remarks on organization we shall refer to another week.

We shall also give the criticisms on the several regiments and separate companies.

NEW YORK.

Governor Black, of New York, in G. O. 1, January 1, 1897, announces his Staff, the names of whom have heretofore appeared in our columns with the exception of Edward Earl Britton, who is appointed Assistant Adjutant General, with rank of Colonel. The remaining paragraphs of the order are important to the National Guard, and is a step in the right direction. They are as follows: III.—The Adjutant General being by law the Chief of Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, all officers of that staff will perform their prescribed duties under his direction. IV.—The Adjutant General being by law also the auditor of all military and naval accounts, no officer will incur any expense on account of the State, except as expressly provided in the regulations, without having first the sanction of the Adjutant General. V.—All reports of an official nature are the property of the superior to whom they are addressed, and must be considered confidential until their publication in part or in full is authorized by him. VI.—Officers seeking legislation on military or naval matters must obtain the ap-

proval of the Adjutant General before approaching the Legislature. VII.—A permanent board on the subject of uniforms and equipments and all matters relating thereto, consisting of the Adjutant General, the brigade commanders, the senior commanding officer in the naval militia and the senior assistant Adjutant General of the State, is hereby constituted, to convene at the call of the Adjutant General and to submit its conclusions and recommendations from time to time for my action. The last paragraph is following out one of the most important recommendations of ex-Inspector General McLewee's.

Referring to the annual report of ex-Inspector General of New York, the *Rochester Globe* says: "The annual report of Insp. Gen. McLewee of the National Guard of New York is one of the most complete and valuable documents of record yet issued, and shows a care in detail and preparation that is very commendable to the General and his assistants. Gen. McLewee issued the report twenty-four hours before his term of service expired, and at 1 p. m. the same day, or exactly 11 hours before Gen. McLewee's term expired, Governor Morison ordered his removal, and appointed Capt. E. M. Hoffman of Elmira in his place. The report is a most exhaustive one, and no doubt will have been read with interest throughout the country, but Gen. McLewee has found that to speak the truth and show up the defects of the National Guard is not what is required of an Inspector in New York State."

The report of ex-Adj. Gen. McAlpin, of New York, is a very short one, and contains little new or of general interest: "There are about 500,000 men in the State," the report says, "subject to enrollment for military service who would be fit for such service. The guard consists of 851 commissioned officers and 12,556 enlisted men. The work performed by the troops at State camp was satisfactory to me in every respect, and their officers and men, as well as the officers serving on my staff."

"All the organizations of the National Guard and Naval Militia, including headquarters or brigades, are now provided with quarters, with the exception of the Fourth Signal Corps and headquarters of the Fourth Brigade, but the quarters occupied by the 36th and 37th Separate Companies at Schenectady are unsafe and entirely inadequate."

The Adjutant General added this to his report: "The report of the Inspector General, not having been received by me in proper shape before rendering my own, is omitted."

14th NEW YORK—COL. H. W. MITCHELL.

The First Battalion, consisting of Companies A, G, H, I and K, and commanded by Maj. Bennett H. Tobey, was reviewed on Thursday evening, Dec. 31, 1896, by Col. John Eddy, 47th Regt. The men presented a very neat appearance, and were steady and attentive during the entire ceremony. The battalion was equalized into five commands of sixteen files, and the formation for review was very promptly and correctly made by Batt. Agt. Reifensahl and turned over to Maj. Tobey in very good shape. As the ranks were opened for review, and as the battalion commander returned to his post in front of the center, Asst. Surg. Harry Cardona marched diagonally across the drill room in front of the line, to the right of the battalion. If he desired to make himself conspicuous, he succeeded, but the event did not add to the beauty of the ceremony. He should have been there on time, or not at all. As noted above the men were steady during the review in line, and the march past in quick time was very good, indeed, the distance and the alignments were excellent, the salutes of the officers, with the exception that some of them held their swords out at too great an angle from their sides, were very timely and well rendered. The march past in double time was very poor; in fact, it could hardly have been worse, the alignments were extremely ragged, and not half of them were in step with the music. It was, what was otherwise a very fine ceremony.

The battalion was then formed for parade, which was taken by Capt. Hagstrom, Co. G, and with the exception of the third company coming to parade rest at the command of the captain of the first company, the ceremony was very good, indeed. The men were steady and the manual very good. At the conclusion of the parade the battalion was marched off in column of companies by the Sergeant Major, passing in review before the officers. L. Contorno's Band, both before and after the military ceremonies, rendered an excellent program.

Among the guests were, in addition to Col. Eddy and staff, Capt. Joseph Hart, Capt. H. C. Lyon, Lieut. Hardy and Jannicky, 47th Regt.; Lieut. John Stewart, Co. A, 13th Regt., who were entertained by the officers of the 14th in a very hospitable manner.

MINNESOTA.

The 18th annual meeting of the Minnesota National Guard Association held on Dec. 28, in St. Louis, proved a very interesting one. Maj. A. W. Wright was presiding officer. Among the recommendations made for the consideration of the Legislature were the following: "That the modern battalion formation be adopted, and the maximum strength of the company be sixty-four men in place of seventy-six; the creation of permanent staff departments, similar to those of the regular army but without pay, save in the exigency of active service; the State law to cover all military offenses, since the cannot be covered by the by-laws of a company and the constitution of the State; enlistments for three years and re-enlistments for one, two or three years, as the applicant may elect; dishonorable discharges only after a sentence by court martial; no allowance for inspection for a man enlisted thirty days prior to inspection, or for men who have not attended two-thirds of the drills and parades where the company is stationed in a city of 50,000 or more, or one-half the drills and parades in cities of less than 50,000; the pay of non-commissioned officers in camp to be larger than the pay of privates, by the allowance of 25 cents to Corporals, 50 cents to Sergeants and 75 cents to 1st Sergeants and regimental non-commissioned officers; the retired list for officers, who have served ten years and for officers, who have served nine days in the War of the Rebellion, and five years in the Guard."

Capt. Phillip Reade, U. S. A., introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Minnesota National Guard Association solicits its representatives in Congress and the Senate to pass a bill which shall provide that no person or persons, corporation or company using the national flag, or the coat-of-arms of the United States, any pattern, imitation or representation thereof, either by printing thereon, painting thereon, or attaching the same any advertisements for public display or distribution for private gain, or as a trade-mark, advertising device or label, or in connection with any advertisement for private gain, or for any political or party

purpose or purposes, or for any object not patriotic in its nature, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, on conviction, be fined a sum not exceeding \$1,000 or be imprisoned for a term not exceeding 100 days, or both, at the discretion of a district court of the United States.

"Resolved, That the secretary of the Minnesota National Guard Association, be and hereby is, instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to the Adjutant General of each State and territory of the United States having an organized militia force; and also a copy to the secretary of every military, loyal, patriotic and hereditary patriotic organization or society in the United States whose address can be ascertained."

Brig. Gen. Muehlberg in addressing the association said that the camp of the coming year might not be longer than five or six days, unless the State should re-open the guard for the money spent at the time of the Grand Army encampment. An effort was being made by all the Adjutants General in the different States to have the general government increase the appropriation for the National Guard. The present appropriation was \$400,000, of which Minnesota received \$7,000. His idea would be to ask for \$1,000,000, of which Minnesota would receive \$16,000. At the session of Dec. 29 the programme included a paper by Gen. Mason on the care of troops in the field; a paper by Capt. Johnson, U. S. A., on marching; papers by Capt. Clark, of Stillwater; Col. Fitzgerald, and Lieut. Jacoby on sickness in camp and kindred topics relating to the service of the Medical Corps and a discussion of the Legislative action the coming winter. Capt. Lee, the Inspector of Small Arms Practice, was present with the Mannlicher gun, the service rifle of the German Army.

NAVAL MILITIA.

In the Massachusetts Naval Militia the "Efficiency Cup," belonging to the Naval Brigade, and which is awarded annually to the divisions showing the highest figure of merit in accordance with the deed of gift (in marksmanship and attendance), has been won again by F. Division, of Fall River. Lieut. William B. Edgar, with H Division of Springfield a close second.

NATIONAL GUARD ITEMS.

Capt. Zabriskie, of Co. C, 71st Regt., N. Y., who has had considerable trouble in his company, has resigned.

The splendid Field Music of the 9th N. Y., under the veteran Drum Major Hill, has volunteered their services for the exhibition to be held in Madison Square Garden in aid of the fund to procure free beds for guardsmen in the Hanneman.

The regimental stag of the 69th New York, it has been decided, shall take place on Tuesday evening, Jan. 26, in the regimental armory.

Col. Bartlett, of the 22d New York, has issued orders for battalion drills which are to commence on Jan. 18.

The members of Co. K, 12th New York, have unanimously requested Capt. Blake to reconsider his determination to resign, and the Captain, it is understood, will so arrange his affairs as to be able to remain with the company a while longer.

During the drills of Cos. C and B, 69th New York, on Jan. 4, Co. B was monopolizing the floor for a considerable period with the "setting-up exercises," which Maj. Spellman thought should be substituted for something a little more progressive at this part of the drill season. He accordingly consolidated Co. C with B, and dividing the command into platoons, put them through a vigorous drill which woke the men up considerably. If Commandants of companies would give their men more of a progressive programme and put a little more "ginger" in their movements better results would be obtained all around.

Maj. H. A. Giddings, Brigade Signal Officer, Connecticut National Guard, has just published a valuable little work entitled "Instructions in Military Signaling," for the use of the National Guard of the United States. This book is the first and only one published containing the new Myer code, and is the first manual to treat of the military use of the bicycle. While Maj. Giddings has included everything essential to successful instruction in the art of military signaling, the manual contains nothing superfluous. It is based on the latest improvements in methods and apparatus, and will be found just what the National Guard needs.

In the 1st Battery of New York, Capt. Louis Wendel, the following civil officers have been elected for the ensuing year: Chairman, Capt. Louis Wendel; recording secretary, Corp. William Muller, financial secretary, 1st Sergt. John G. Janssen; treasurer, Lieut. F. L. Fuchs; recording secretaries, Lance Corp. Wendel and Pvt. Paschke; Finance Committee, Lieut. T. F. Schmitt, Commy. Sergt. G. Schaubberger and Sergt. H. Ringlemann; Discipline Committee, Lieut. R. M. Lyman, Sergt. M. Keller, Corp. Jost, Corp. Friedrich and Pvt. Munger; Recruiting Committee, Lieut. Luchs, Lieut. A. W. Dingleman, Sergt. Connell and Corp. Seyfried; House Committee, Lieut. Hathaway, Corp. Clayton and Pvt. Dinglemann. Capt. Wendel will represent the battery at the National Guard Convention with Lieut. Schmidt as alternate.

A New York paper, which sought to make a sensation out of the visit of a well-known actress to the State camp was a little misinformed as to its facts. The 22d Regiment was not in camp last year with the 69th Regiment, as stated. It was, however, in camp with the 69th Regiment in 1895. A guard from the regiment did not actually salute a "soubrette"—although she may

have thought they did. A guard did, however, salute a very high officer of the General Staff, as required by regulations—the famous "soubrette" riding in an open carriage with him at the time, and naturally shared the honors of the salute. The "soubrette," however, while exciting admiration from the military men on account of her exceptionally good looks, behaved in a perfectly ladylike manner, and this during several visits. The post band was ordered to serenade in front of the general headquarters' tents, and as the "soubrette" was the guest of one of the officers there, the serenade was construed as being in her honor. The other ladies present, however, including the wives of some of the officers, have an equal right to claim the honors of the Post Band serenade.

Adj. Gen. Axline, of Ohio, has accepted the resignation of Maj. E. B. King, of the 16th Infantry, of Sandusky. Maj. King is next to the ranking Major in the Ohio National Guard, and has a record as an officer which does him credit. He retires from the National Guard reluctantly, but he has been elected a Judge, and he considers it his duty to sever his connection with the National Guard, in order to do justice to his new position. An order has been issued for the election for two Majors in the 1st Infantry, on account of vacancies created by the promotion of Maj. E. H. Lovell, to be Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment, and on account of the expiration of the term of commission of Maj. Thomas, whose commission expires Jan. 1, 1897. The nominating convention is ordered to meet at the headquarters of the regiment on the 4th and the election will be held on the 11th of January, 1897.

Co. G, 69th New York, Capt. Duffy, will hold a vaudeville entertainment and dance at the Lexington Avenue Opera House on Friday evening, Jan. 29. Only the best of professional talent will appear.

Co. H, 71st New York, Capt. Joyce, assisted by the Arlington Dramatic Society, will present the romantic military drama entitled "The Midnight Charge" at Central Opera House on Thursday evening, Jan. 21. The performance will commence at 8:15 P. M., and there will be dancing after the performance.

Co. F, 71st New York, Capt. Wells, will hold an entertainment and reception at Central Opera House, Sixty-seventh street, near Third avenue, on Monday evening, Jan. 11. The entertainment is to commence at 8 o'clock sharp.

The Major—Do you know, madam, there was a time when soldiers wore corsets; but they found they were injurious to health, and so—

Mrs. Major—Yes; and so they gave them to their poor, weak, helpless wives and daughters. —Exch.

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BORN.

RUSSELL.—At Plymouth, N. H., Dec. 31, 1896, to Louisa H. and Frank W. Russell—a daughter, Mary Louise.

TAYLOR.—At Toledo, O., Dec. 16, 1896, to the wife of Dr. D. B. Taylor—a son. A grandson to Capt. and Mrs. J. Q. Adams.

MARRIED.

BARTLETT-BUCKBEE.—At Long Branch, N. J., Jan. 4, 1897, Brev. Brig. Gen. Charles G. Bartlett, Colonel U. S. A., to Mrs. Rachael L. Buckbee.

GARDINER-CAMPBELL.—At the South Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 6, 1896, Mr. A. B. Gardiner, Jr., son of Col. Asa Bird Gardiner, U. S. A., to Miss Mary Norcom Campbell, daughter of Mr. Howard Campbell.

GRAHAM-PRESTON.—At Fort Sherman, Idaho, Dec. 23, 1896, Miss Meta Campbell Graham, daughter of Comdr. J. D. Graham, U. S. N., granddaughter of the late Col. James Duncan Graham, Corps of Engineers, and grandniece of the late Maj. Gen. G. G. Meade, U. S. A., to Lieut. John F. Preston, 16th U. S. Inf.

JACKSON-SAMPSON.—At Washington, D. C., Jan. 6, 1896, Ensign Richard Harrison Jackson, U. S. N., to Miss Catharine Sampson, daughter of Capt. W. T. Sampson, U. S. N.

KAY-WALTON.—At Middletown, N. Y., Dec. 30, 1896, Mr. Murray Kay, to Miss Helen Wadsworth Walton, daughter of the late Walter Walton, formerly Acting Ensign, U. S. N.

KING-FUGER.—At Washington Barracks, D. C., Jan. 7, 1897, Lieut. David M. King, 4th U. S. Art., to Miss Marguerite Fuger, daughter of Capt. Frederick and sister of Lieut. F. W. Fuger, 13th U. S. Inf.

MONCKTON-DENE-COLE.—On New Year's eve, at Toledo, Ohio, Hospital Steward Monckton-Dene, U. S. A., and Miss Charlotte Claire Cole.

DIED.

BRYANT.—At Newport, R. I., Dec. 28, 1896, Passed Asst. Surg. Patrick H. Bryant, U. S. N.

BUFFINGTON.—At Rio Grande, Tex., on Dec. 27, of apoplexy, Dr. A. L. Buffington, formerly contract surgeon in the Army.

COFFIN.—Suddenly at Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., Jan. 4, 1897, Lieut. John H. C. Coffin, U. S. N., son of the late Prof. J. H. C. Coffin, U. S. N., and brother of Lieut. W. H. Coffin, 5th U. S. Art.

GARDNER.—At Washington, D. C., Dec. 17, 1896, Mr. Thomas H. Gardner, brother of Lieut. Col. William H. Gardner, Deputy Surg. Gen., U. S. A.

GUILD.—At Boston, Mass., Jan. 1, 1896, Pay Insp. Charles Fox Guild, U. S. N., retired.

HARDESTY.—At Washington, D. C., on Dec. 30, 1896, Annie Remington, eldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. R. L. Hardesty, and sister of the wife of 1st Lieut. John F. McBlain, 9th Cav.

PALFREY.—At Boston, Mass., Jan. 2, 1896, Mrs. Palfrey, widow of Gen. Francis Winthrop Palfrey.

PARKER.—Suddenly, at Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1896, Capt. William H. Parker, formerly of U. S. N.

RUSSELL.—At Plymouth, N. H., Jan. 2, 1897, baby Mary Louise, daughter of Louisa H. and Frank W. Russell.

RUSSELL.—Dec. 22, 1896, at Fort Valley, Ga., Francis E. Russell, stepmother of Surg. A. C. H. Russell, U. S. N.

SCHNYDER.—At Tobias, Neb., Ord. Sergt. Leodegar Schnyder, U. S. A., retired.

SKERRETT.—At his residence, in Washington, D. C., Dec. 30, 1896, Rear Adml. Joseph S. Skerrett, U. S. N., retired.

WALKER.—At Boston, Mass., Jan. 5, 1897, Gen. Francis Amasa Walker, a distinguished officer of Volunteers during the War, 1861-65.

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Minn., Dec. 16, 1896.—Sealed proposals for dredging about 21,000,000 cubic yards in the Harbor of Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis., will be received here until noon, Feb. 15, 1897, and then publicly opened. Information furnished on application. CLINTON I. SEARS, Major, Engrs.

PROPOSALS FOR SUPPLIES FOR THE NEW YORK NAVY YARD, January 1, 1897.—Sealed proposals endorsed "Proposals for Supplies for the New York Navy Yard" to be opened January 19, 1897, will be received at the Bureau of Supplies and Accounts, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., until 12 o'clock noon, January 19, 1897, and publicly opened immediately thereafter to furnish at the New York Navy Yard, a quantity sewing silk, spool cotton, bone buttons, twill, squiggles, hand and leg iron plate powder, marine spikes, hose fittings, fishing leads, brooms, brushes, bath lantern globes, leather, belting, sheet lead, packing, shellac, lard oil, turpentine, linseed oil, alcohol, japan drier, varnishes, soda, pumice stone, wrought iron pipe valves, brass pipe fittings, files, unbleached cotton drill, worsted tape, knife lanyards and tinned vegetables. The articles must conform to the Navy standard and pass the usual naval inspection. Blank proposals will be furnished upon application to the Navy Pay Office, New York. The attention of manufacturers and dealers is invited. The bids all other things being equal, decided by lot. The Department reserves the right to waive defects or to reject any or all bids deemed advantageous to the Government. EDWIN STEWART, Paymaster General, U. S. N.

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE, ARMY BUILDING, NEW YORK. N. Y., December 8, 1896.—To whom it may concern: Regulations have been prescribed by the Secretary of War for opening and closing draws of bridges across the Harlem River, on and after Jan. 1, 1897. Copies may be obtained by application to the undersigned. G. L. GILLESPIE, Col., Engrs.

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., Dec. 14, 1896.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received here until 11 o'clock A. M. (central standard time), Jan. 13, 1897, for furnishing Q. M. Depot here, various articles of Quartermaster's supplies. U. S. reserves the right to reject or accept any or all proposals or any part thereof. Information furnished on application. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked "Proposals for Quartermaster's Supplies," and addressed to G. ROBINSON, Depot Q. M.

Abraham Lincoln was fond of a good story, and it is a well-known fact that he often illustrated an important point in the business at hand by resorting to his favorite pastime. Probably one of the best he ever told he related of himself when he was a lawyer in Illinois. One day Lincoln and a certain judge, who was an intimate friend of his, were bantering each other about horses, a favorite topic of theirs. Finally Lincoln said: "Well, look here, judge, I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll make a horse-trade with you, only it must be upon these stipulations: Neither party shall see the other's horse until it is produced here in the court-yard of the hotel, and both parties must trade horses. If either party backs out of the agreement, he does so under a forfeiture of twenty-five dollars."

"Agreed," cried the judge, and both he and Lincoln went in quest of their respective animals. A crowd gathered, anticipating some fun, and when the judge returned first, the laugh was uproarious. He led, or rather dragged, at the end of a halter, the meanest, loneliest, rib-staring quadruped—blind in both eyes—that ever pressed turf. But presently Lincoln came along carrying over his shoulder a carpenter's horse. Then the mirth of the crowd was furious. Lincoln solemnly set his horse down, and silently surveyed the judge's animal with a comical look of infinite disgust.

"Well, judge," he finally said, "this is the first time I ever got the worst of it in a horse trade.—Harper's Round Table.

So far has the prejudice against the Army Medical Staff of the British Army gone in some minds that a writer in "Blackwood" almost seems inclined to credit a report that it has been actually seriously proposed to abolish the Medical Staff altogether as an integral part of the Army, handing over the care of the sick in peace to the civilian practitioner of a district, and in war replacing it by a purely civilian medical department, organized and enrolled for duty when special occasions should arise.

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where the cotton grows, and the sight and the smell of pines are delightful to the senses. You have slept well, and you enjoy your breakfast. When called for luncheon you are loath to leave the observation car. Completing luncheon—presto!—it is 3.30, and you are in Jacksonville. One hour later, at 4.30, less than twenty-eight hours in all, you are enchanting in St. Augustine. And the train! It represents the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Southern Railway (Piedmont Air Line), and the Florida Central and Peninsular Railroad. It is beyond comparison with anything that typifies speed on land or water; for luxury compare it with the most palatial yacht afloat—a combination of mahogany, tapestry, mirrors, silver, fine linen and cut glass, and all the creature comforts money can buy at the close of the nineteenth century. There is a dining car, where you find the service and the wines as fine as in any New York or St. Augustine Hotel. Next there is a compartment car for those who desire exclusiveness and unusual space. Of perfect design and appointments, small parties and families in these compartments find the freedom of their homes. For the invalid and the tired they are blessings. This car contains seven state-rooms, and they can be transformed into one or two suites of private apartments. Each end of the car has an elaborate drawing-room. Again, there is a sleeping car and it is a model of its kind—large, tastefully and richly furnished. The observation car is quite indispensable, and there is no more popular car on the train, for surely no traveler cares to read when he can recline in a softly-cushioned chair and grow enthusiastic over the wonderful studies in landscapes and ebony-colored human nature that are his for the looking.

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